



Karen Lewis, president of the Chicago teachers union responds to a question after meeting of the union's House of Delegates Friday, Sept. 14, 2012, in Chicago. Lewis told the delegates that a "framework" was in place to end the teachers strike. Associated Press

Negotiators have 'framework' to end teachers strike

By DON BABWIN
TAMMY WEBBER
Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — The city's nearly weeklong teachers strike appeared headed toward a resolution Friday after negotiators emerged from marathon talks to say they had achieved a "framework" that could end the walkout in time for students to return to class Monday. Both sides were careful not to describe the deal as a final agreement and declined to release the terms. They expected to spend the weekend working out details before union delegates are asked to vote Sunday on whether to call off the strike. School Board President David Vitale said the "heavy lifting" was over after long hours of talks placed "frameworks around all the major issues."

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University of Texas students evacuate campus after the university received a bomb threat Friday morning, Sept. 14, 2012 in Austin, Texas. The university received a call about 8:35 a.m. local time from a man claiming to be with al-Qaida who said he had placed bombs all over the 50,000-student Austin campus, according to University of Texas spokeswoman Rhonda Weldon.

Associated Press

All-clears after bomb threats evacuate campuses

JIM VERTUNO
Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Tens of thousands of people streamed off university campuses in Texas and North Dakota on Friday after telephoned bomb threats prompted officials to warn students and faculty to get away as quickly as possible. Both campuses eventually were deemed safe and reopened by early afternoon, as authorities worked to determine whether the threats were related. The FBI was working to determine whether the phoned-in threats to the University of Texas and North Dakota State University were related. No explosives were found. The University of Texas received a call about 8:35 a.m. local time from a man claiming to be with al-Qaida who said he had placed bombs all over the

50,000-student Austin campus, according to University of Texas spokeswoman Rhonda Weldon.

He claimed the bombs would go off in 90 minutes and all buildings were evacuated at 9:50 a.m. as a precaution, Weldon said. The deadline passed without incident, and the university reopened all buildings by noon. Classes were canceled for the rest of the day, but other university activities were to resume by 5 p.m.

"We are extremely confident that the campus is safe," UT President William Powers told a news conference. Powers defended the decision not to evacuate sooner.

"It's easy to make a phone call ... the first thing we needed to do was evaluate," Powers said. "If the threat had been for some-

thing to go off in five minutes, then you don't have the time to evaluate, you just have to pull the switch." Not everyone agreed.

"What took so long?" student Ricardo Nunez said. "It should have been more immediate."

North Dakota State University President Dean Bresciani said 20,000 people also were evacuated from his school's main and downtown campuses in Fargo after the school received its threat.

FBI spokesman Kyle Loven said a call that included a "threat of an explosive device" came in about 9:45 a.m., but he declined to give further details.

NDSU buildings reopened about 1 p.m. and classes were set to resume an hour later, said Bresciani, adding that the campus had been "deemed safe."

Graduate student Lee Kied-

rowski of Dickinson, North Dakota, said he was walking on campus just before 10 a.m. when he got a text message telling him students had been ordered to evacuate within 15 minutes. "The panic button wasn't triggered quite immediately," said Kiedrowski, who's studying infectious disease management and biosecurity. "But there was definitely the thought that we live in a different world now, and with everything that's going on with the riots at the U.S. embassies in the Middle East, your brain just starts moving.

You never really know what's going on." In Texas, campus sirens wailed and cellphones pinged with text messages when the initial alert went out.

Continued on Next Page

Obama honors memory of Libya attack victims

JIM KUHNHENN

Associated Press

ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE, Maryland (AP) — President Barack Obama on Friday honored the four Americans killed in an attack on the U.S. consulate in Libya, recalling their lives in deeply personal terms and declaring the United States will never pull back on its principles or “retreat from the world.”

“Their sacrifice will never be forgotten,” Obama said as four flag-draped cases rested near him.

He had come to witness the return of those slain in the assault on the American diplomatic mission, including the U.S. ambassador, Chris Stevens.

In the heat of a presidential election year, the scene was a gripping reminder of the danger facing Americans in diplomatic and military service every day, and of the turmoil in an incendiary region of the world that continues to test Obama’s leadership.

“They knew the danger, and they accepted it,” Obama said. “They didn’t simply embrace the American ideal. They lived it.”

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton’s voice broke as she spoke before the president, and she appeared to be fighting tears as she listened to him.



A carry teams moves a flag-draped transfer case of the remains of one of the Americans killed this week in Benghazi, Libya, from a transport plane during the Transfer of Remains Ceremony, Friday, Sept. 14, 2012, at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., marking the return to the United States of the remains of the four Americans killed this week in Benghazi, Libya.

Associated Press.

“The people of Egypt, Libya, Yemen and Tunisia did not trade the tyranny of a dictator for the tyranny of a mob,” Clinton said.

Americans Sean Smith, Glen A. Doherty and Tyrone S. Woods were also killed in a chaotic rush on the consulate.

Said Obama of all four men: “They embodied it: the courage, the hope and yes the idealism, that fundamental belief that we can leave this world a little bit better than before.

That’s who they were, and that’s who we are. If we want to truly honor their memory, that’s who we must always be.”

The transfer of remains came three days after an attack on the consulate, one of a series of assaults on U.S. outposts in Muslim countries that U.S. officials blame on an anti-Muslim video made in the United States.

Clinton said the rage and violence aimed at American missions was prompted

by “an awful Internet video that we had nothing to do with.”

The president met privately with family members of the fallen before stepping into a cavernous hangar at this base he knows well, home to Air Force One.

Emerging from a C-17 cargo plane, six Marines each carried the cases on top of stands before four waiting hearses, as a color guard led the somber procession. Clinton and Obama both spoke of how the four men

lived their lives — and how their mission would go on.

“This work, and the men and women who risk their lives to do it, are at the heart of what makes America great and good,” Clinton said.

“So we will wipe away our tears, stiffen our spines, and face the future undaunted.”

Said Obama: “The United States of America will never retreat from the world. We will never stop working for the dignity and freedom that every person deserves.”

Also attending the ceremony were Vice President Joe Biden and Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta.

The searing images of burning flags, breached embassies and smoldering cars have shocked the nation.

The deaths on Tuesday, the anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, and the anti-American sentiment behind them underscored a foreign policy paradox for Obama.

Many of the protests in the Arab world were in countries that underwent Obama-backed revolutions during the Arab Spring.

Illustrating the volatility, Friday’s ceremony unfolded as a Marine rapid response team arrived in Yemen’s capital as protests erupted there. □

Bomb threats

Continued from front page

Students described more confusion than panic as they exited the sprawling campus in what one described as an “orderly but tense” manner. Students said they were directed off campus by university staff. “One of them said to me ‘get off this campus as soon as possible,’” said Elizabeth Gerberich, an 18-year-old freshman from New Jersey. Police blocked off roads heading into campus as lines of cars sat in gridlock trying to get out. With rain falling, students stood under awnings and



University of Texas student Chelsa Rangel shows the safety alert text message that was sent out to all of the students and University employees warning them that there’s a threat on the campus and to evacuate all buildings immediately, in Austin, Texas, Friday, Sept. 14, 2012.

Associated Press

overhangs and inundated nearby off-campus restaurants and coffee shops as they waited for updates

from officials.

Abby Johnston, a production and special editions coordinator for Texas Student Media, said she received the first text message from the university less than an hour after she arrived at work and started thinking about what she would publish in the next day’s paper. Then the sirens blared.

Tania Lara, a graduate student at the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, said she was at work inside a central campus academic building when she got a text message to get as far away as possible.

“It was calm but nobody knew what was going on,” she said, describing a crush

of students heading for the exits. “No one was yelling ‘get out of here’ or anything like that.”

Also Friday, Valparaiso University in Indiana increased security and posted a warning to students on its website after a vague threat was discovered scrawled in some graffiti. The school says the threat claimed “dangerous and criminal activity” would occur Friday during the university’s daily chapel break.

The FBI and local authorities searched the campus but found nothing suspicious and university spokeswoman Nicole Niemi said classes and other regular activities were continuing as planned. □

Teachers strike

Continued from Front Page

Union President Karen Lewis agreed, saying there were no "main sticking points right now." But she reiterated that there is also no contract yet and the strike remains in full effect. Despite the apparent progress, she said, the union is still suspicious of the board after being burned in the past.

The walkout has been a potent display of union power at a time when organized labor has been losing ground around the nation. The negotiations have been closely followed by many other unions and school districts that face the same issues about the future of urban education, particularly teacher evaluations linked to student test scores and the threat of school closures.

In a statement, Mayor Rahm Emanuel said the

framework "is an honest and principled compromise" that "preserves more time for learning in the classroom, provides more support teachers to excel at their craft and gives principals the latitude and responsibility to build an environment in which our children can succeed."

Robert Bloch, an attorney for the union, called it "one of the most difficult labor contracts negotiated in decades." He said many of the core issues had been worked out "but not all of them." Shortly after negotiators reported the progress, Lewis entered a meeting of union delegates. The delegates could be seen through windows cheering and applauding, some of them on their feet and pumping their fists in the air. Journalists were not allowed inside the meeting, but delegates said later that the cheering was not for a deal but because the negotiating team had promised there would be



Chicago Board of Education President David Vitale reacts to a reporter's question at a news conference outside the Chicago Teachers Union Headquarters, Sunday, Sept. 9, 2012 in Chicago. Associated Press

no agreement until everything was in writing.

"I think we want to go back to the classroom, but we are willing to do whatever we need to," said Adam Heenan, a delegate and teacher at Curie Metro High School. "We are prepared to go back to teach. We are prepared to con-

tinue to walk."

Still, both sides sounded more optimistic than at any point since teachers hit the picket line Monday.

When the contract offer is complete, the union's bargaining committee expected to recommend the contract proposal to the membership, Bloch said.

"And if we have been listening to the membership well and have heard their concerns, then that agreement will be accepted by our membership overall," he said.

The walkout, the first by Chicago teachers in 25 years, canceled five days of school for more than 350,000 public school students who had just returned from summer vacation.

At one point, the district offered a 16 percent raise over four years — far beyond what most American employers have offered in the aftermath of the Great Recession.

The union sought a plan for laid-off instructors to get first dibs on job openings and for an evaluation system that does not rely heavily on student test scores.

The district offered compromises, including provisions that would have protected tenured teachers from dismissal in the first year of the evaluations and created an appeals process. □

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Obama, Romney both see reasons to worry in Florida



In this Aug. 13, 2012 file photo, Republican presidential candidate, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, flanked by Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart, R-Fla., and Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., speaks at a campaign event in Miami.

Associated Press

By JULIE PACE
Associated Press
APOPKA, Fla. (AP) — President Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney have this in common when it comes to Florida: They're both worried about the biggest election battleground prize. The president has an edge here, but Democrats fear the advantage may be fleeting and fret about Florida's undecided voters. They're also nervous about legal battles over state voter laws that could cut into Obama's support among minorities. Republicans are concerned that Romney hasn't closed the deal in a state hampered by joblessness and home foreclosures, even though

he's cast himself as the economic fixer and, along with his allies, has spent significant money and time here. The state is especially critical for Romney. With his paths limited toward the 270 electoral votes needed to win the White House, Romney's chances are far more difficult if he doesn't claim Florida's enormous cache of 29. That explains why he's starting to pour even more money into television commercials here now that he has access to general election funds. Both campaigns expect Republicans to outspend Democrats on the airwaves in the final weeks of the race in a state that already has seen each side spend roughly \$60 million on TV and radio ads. The situation in Florida — and the campaigns' anxieties about it — reflects the overall state of the presidential race. A new smattering of polls shows Obama ahead by several percentage points in key states including Florida, Ohio and Virginia, as well as nationally. The clock is ticking toward November, Obama clearly has momentum on his side and Romney faces dwindling opportunities to change the race's trajectory. Without Florida, Romney would have to win all of the states that are leaning his way, as well as all of the others that Obama won four years ago but now are too close to call — Ohio, Virginia, Iowa, Colorado, Nevada and New Hampshire — and still pick up two more electoral votes elsewhere, in states that are even more difficult. The uncertainty of Florida partly explains why Romney now is making a play for Wisconsin. That state, which offers 10 electoral votes, has voted for Democrats for decades, but the GOP has seen down-ballot success there lately and Romney running mate Paul Ryan lives there. Obama already has far more states — and, thus, electoral votes — in his likely-winners column. Be-

cause of that edge, he can hold the White House without Florida as long as he wins most of the other toss-up states. His standing has suffered here along with the state's economy, four years after he won the state by cobbling together a coalition of Hispanics, African-Americans and independents to go with other Democrats. This year, undecided voters, and those not entirely sold on their candidates, may well tip the balance here. Few seem hot on either contender. And most say the economy is Issue No. 1 in a state whose 8.8 percent unemployment rate is among the highest in the nation, as is its foreclosure rate. Kathy Belcher, a Democrat from Apopka, is leaning toward Obama but says she would be willing to give Romney a chance if he offered more details on the economy and health care. "It seems with Obama, people are getting a hand-out," Belcher said. So, she added, she'd consider voting for Romney if he could assure her that won't happen under him. "But that hasn't happened." Donna Sprenkle, a registered Republican from Apopka, plans to vote for Romney — reluctantly. She doesn't think he's explained well enough how he would fix the economy. "I know somebody just can't overnight bring it back," Sprenkle said. These are among the persuadable voters Obama, Romney and their top surrogates are courting as they make weekly campaign stops in Florida. Both candidates are expected to visit next week as the latest public poll — an NBC News/Wall Street Journal/Marist Poll released Thursday — shows Obama with a 49 percent to 44 percent advantage over Romney. "It should come as no surprise that Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan are having trouble in Florida," said Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz of Florida, chairwoman of the Democratic National Committee. □

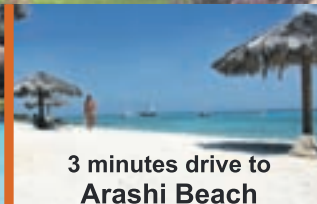
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Twitter hands over protester tweets in Occupy case



In this Oct. 1, 2011 a line of police officers block protesters on New York's Brooklyn Bridge during a march by Occupy Wall Street.

Associated Press

ALEX KATZ

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Twitter on Friday agreed to hand over about three months' worth of tweets to a judge overseeing the criminal trial of an Occupy Wall Street protester, a case that has become a closely watched fight over how much access law enforcement agencies should have to material posted on social networks.

Twitter had been threatened with steep fines if it did not comply with a New York judge's order to turn over the records in the case of Malcolm Harris, who was arrested with hundreds of others in a protest that drew international attention to the movement against economic inequality. "We are disappointed that Twitter is essentially giving up the fight," Harris' attorney, Martin Stolar, said after Friday's hearing. Twitter's lawyer, Terryl Brown, called the options it

faced — waiving its right to appeal or being in held in contempt of court — "unfair" and "unjust." The Manhattan district attorney's office said Harris' messages could show whether he was aware of the police orders he's charged with disregarding during a protest on the Brooklyn Bridge.

Twitter had said the case could put it in the unwanted position of having to take on legal fights that users could otherwise conduct on their own.

"One of the things we were happy to see is that Twitter actually took a stand and tried to challenge this — most companies wouldn't go that far," said Hanni Fakhoury, a staff attorney with the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a civil rights group.

Still, it's a hard argument to make because Twitter by nature is so public, said Joel Reidenberg, a Fordham Law Professor and expert

on internet privacy issues.

"The tweets themselves are public information, it's like speaking on a street corner," Reidenberg said. "His claim to privacy on the tweets is pretty weak, frankly."

Harris' trial begins in December. He has pleaded not guilty.

Harris was among more than 700 people arrested when protesters tried to cross the bridge, many on the roadway. Police said demonstrators ignored warnings to stay on a pedestrian path. Harris and others say they thought they had police permission. Prosecutors want Harris' tweets and user information from Sept. 15 to Dec. 31 that were taken down from the public site. They said the information contradicts Harris' claim that he thought police were allowing the protesters onto the roadway. They said he couldn't claim his privacy rights should shield messag-

es he sent publicly.

The data could give prosecutors a picture of his followers, their interactions through replies and retweets and his location

at various points, Stolar said. Harris had argued that seeking the accompanying user information violated his privacy and free association rights. □

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Wisconsin law limiting union rights struck down

SCOTT BAUER
Associated Press

MADISON, Wisconsin (AP) — A judge on Friday struck down a Wisconsin state law that effectively ended collective bargaining rights for most public workers and made the governor who championed it a conservative Republican star.

Gov. Scott Walker's administration immediately vowed to appeal, while unions declared victory. What the ruling meant for existing public contracts was murky: Unions claimed it meant they could negotiate again, but Walker could seek to keep the law in effect while the legal drama plays out.

Anger over the law's passage led to an effort to



In this June 25, 2012 file photo, Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker speaks at a news conference in Chicago. Associated Press

recall Walker from office in June. Walker won and became the first governor in U.S. history to survive a

recall. His victory that was seen as adding momentum to wider Republican Party efforts to reclaim the Senate and the White House in the November elections.

The law took away nearly all collective bargaining rights from most workers and has been in effect for more than a year.

Dane County Circuit Judge Juan Colas ruled that the law violates both the state and U.S. Constitution and is null and void.

The ruling applies to all local public workers affected by the law, including teachers and city and county government employees, but not those who work for the state. They were not a party to the lawsuit, which was brought by a Madison teachers union and a Milwaukee public workers union.

Walker issued a statement accusing the judge of being a "liberal activist" who "wants to go backwards and take away the law-

making responsibilities of the legislature and the governor. We are confident that the state will ultimately prevail in the appeals process."

Lester Pines, an attorney for Madison Teachers Inc., said the ruling means all local governments, including school districts, are now required to bargain with employees covered by unions, just as they did before the law passed. Pines predicted the case would ultimately be resolved by the state Supreme Court.

The proposal was introduced shortly after Walker took office in February last year. It resulted in a firestorm of opposition and led to huge protests at the state Capitol that lasted for weeks. All 14 Democratic state senators fled the state to Illinois for three weeks in an ultimately failed attempt to stop the law's passage from the Republican-controlled Legislature.

The law required public

workers to pay more for their health insurance and pension benefits at the same time it took away their ability to collectively bargain over those issues.

Walker argued the changes were needed to help state and local governments save money at a time Wisconsin faced a \$3 billion budget shortfall.

The ruling comes as Wisconsin emerges as a potential battleground in the presidential election, which is decided not by popular vote but in state-by-state contests.

Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney, trying to make inroads in traditionally Democratic territory, chose Wisconsin Rep. Paul Ryan as his running mate.

President Barack Obama is traveling to Wisconsin next week, a sign that his re-election campaign may be concerned about his prospects in a state he handily won in 2008. □



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Violence erupts at protests of anti-Muslim film

AYA BATRAWY
LEE KEATH
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Fury over an anti-Islam film spread across the Muslim world Friday, with deadly clashes near Western embassies in Tunisia and Sudan, an American fast-food restaurant set ablaze in Lebanon, and international peacekeepers attacked in the Sinai despite an appeal for calm from Egypt's Islamist president.

At least four people — all protesters — were killed and dozens were wounded in the demonstrations in more than 20 countries from the Middle East to Southeast Asia. Most were peaceful but they turned violent in several nations, presenting challenges for the leaders who came to power in the Arab Spring.

Security forces worked to rein in the anti-American crowds but appeared to struggle in doing so. Police in Cairo prevented stone-throwing protesters from getting near the U.S. Embassy, firing tear gas and deploying armored vehicles in a fourth day of clashes in the Egyptian capital. One person died there after being shot by rubber bullets. The State Department said U.S. Embassy personnel were reported to be safe in Tunisia, Sudan and Yemen — sites of Friday's violent demonstrations.

President Barack Obama said Washington would "stand fast" against attacks on U.S. embassies around the world. He spoke at a somber ceremony paying tribute to four Americans — including U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens — killed earlier this week when the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya, was stormed by mili-



Egyptian protesters clash with security forces, unseen, near the U.S. embassy in Cairo, Egypt, Friday, Sept. 14, 2012, as part of widespread anger across the Muslim world about a film ridiculing Islam's Prophet Muhammad.

-Associated Press

itants who may have used protests of the anti-Muslim film to stage an assault on the 11th anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

An elite Marine rapid response team arrived in Yemen's capital of Sanaa, where local security forces shot live rounds in the air and fired tear gas at a crowd of an estimated 2,000 protesters who were kept about a block away from the U.S. Embassy, which protesters broke into the day before.

In east Jerusalem, Israeli police stopped a crowd of about 400 Palestinians from marching on the U.S. Consulate to protest the film. Demonstrators threw bottles and stones at police, who responded by firing stun grenades. Four protesters were arrested. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton had tried to pre-empt the violence a day earlier by saying the

rage and violence aimed at American diplomatic missions was prompted by "an awful Internet video that we had nothing to do with."

Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi went on national TV and appealed to Muslims not to attack embassies. It was his first public move to restrain protesters after days of near silence and appeared aimed at easing tensions with the United States.

The United Nations Security Council released a press statement late Friday condemning "in the strongest terms" the violence, saying "the very nature of diplomatic premises is peaceful and ... diplomats have among their core functions the promotion of better understanding across countries and cultures."

But the demonstrators came out after weekly Friday prayers. Many clerics

in their mosque sermons urged congregations to defend their faith, denouncing the obscure movie "Innocence of Muslims" that was produced in the United States that denigrated the Prophet Muhammad.

In addition to countries where protests have occurred, U.S. embassies around the world, including in France and Austria, issued alerts Friday advising Americans to review their personal security measures and warning them that demonstrations may occur and may turn violent. Other embassies issuing alerts included Mauritania and India. More than 50 U.S. embassies and consulates had released similar alerts Thursday.

Several thousand people battled with Tunisian security forces outside the U.S. Embassy in Tunis. Protesters rained stones on police firing tear gas and shooting

into the air. Some protesters scaled the embassy wall and stood on top of it, planting the Islamist flag that has become a symbol of the wave of protests: A black banner with the Islamic profession of faith, "There is no god but Allah and Muhammad is his prophet."

Police chased them off the wall and took the flag down. Two protesters were killed and 29 people were wounded, including police. Protesters also set fire to the American School adjacent to the embassy compound and prevented firefighters from approaching it. State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said the school in Tunis was badly damaged and is now "unusable."

The heaviest violence came in Khartoum, Sudan, where a prominent sheik on state radio urged protesters to march on the German Embassy to protest alleged anti-Muslim graffiti on mosques in Berlin and then to the U.S. Embassy to protest the film.

"America has long been an enemy to Islam and to Sudan," Sheik Mohammed Jizouly said.

On Friday night, a U.S. official said an elite Marine rapid response team was headed to Sudan. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the deployment was not made public.

Soon after, several hundred Sudanese stormed into the German Embassy, setting part of a building aflame along with trash bins and a car. Protesters celebrated around the burning barrels as black smoke billowed into the sky until police firing tear gas drove them out of the compound. □



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Israel leader says U.S. may not act against Iran

DANIEL ESTRIN
 Associated Press
 JERUSALEM (AP) — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu insinuated in an interview published Friday that Israel cannot entirely rely on the U.S. to act against Iran's suspect nuclear program, a sign that the Israeli leader is not backing down from the sharp rhetoric that strained relations this week with the Obama administration.

Netanyahu has been arguing in recent weeks that Iran is getting close to acquiring nuclear weapons capability, a claim Iran denies.



In this July 29, 2012 file photo, Republican presidential candidate, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney meets with Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Jerusalem.
 Associated Press

He has been pushing the U.S. to commit to the circumstances under which the U.S. would lead a strike on Iran's nuclear facilities. Netanyahu and other Israeli leaders have repeatedly hinted that if the United States does not attack, Israel will.

"I hear those who say we should wait until the last minute. But what if the U.S. doesn't act? It's a question that must be asked,"

Netanyahu told Israel Ha-yom, in an interview marking the Jewish New Year. The paper, a free mass-circulation daily, is funded by Netanyahu's billionaire Jewish-American supporter Sheldon Adelson.

The Obama administration also suspects Tehran is seeking to become a nuclear power and says it is committed to preventing a nuclear Iran, but insists more efforts must be

made before resorting to military action. Washington is refusing to be specific about what exactly would necessitate a strike on Iran and has rejected an Israeli demand for "red lines" that cannot be crossed.

Earlier this week Netanyahu issued a rebuke of the U.S. cautious stance, perceived as an indirect swipe at the Obama administration. He said that

"those in the international community who refuse to put red lines before Iran don't have a moral right to place a red light before Israel."

Netanyahu's harsh rhetoric has drawn criticism in Israel and abroad. It even prompted a leading Jewish-American senator to take the extraordinary step of publicly rebuking him. Some have charged that Netanyahu's comments were aimed at helping his longtime friend and Republican presidential candidate, Mitt Romney, in his November election showdown with President Barack Obama.

In the interview, Netanyahu strongly rejected the claims.

"I am guided not by the elections in United States but by the centrifuges in Iran," he said.

"If the Iranians were to say 'stop' and cease enriching uranium and preparing a bomb until the end of the elections in the United States then I could wait."

Adding to tensions, Romney criticized Obama at a New York fundraiser on Friday for allegedly not planning to meet in person with Netanyahu on the sidelines of the upcoming United Nations General Assembly meetings later this month.

Earlier this week Obama called Netanyahu and the White House followed up the phone call with a rare late-night statement denying reports of a rift. Netanyahu's office said the two men had a "good conversation."

White House spokesman Jay Carney downplayed any signs of discord with Israel.

"The president has made clear that he is committed to preventing Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon. We are completely in sync with Israel on that matter. There is no daylight between the United States and Israel when it comes to the absolute commitment to preventing Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon," he said. □

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Czech bans spirit sales amid wave of poisonings



Using the No Entry sign, an employee closes the liquor department in Makro hypermarket in Ostrava, Czech Republic, late Friday, Sept. 14, 2012.

Associated Press

KAREL JANICEK
Associated Press

PRAGUE (AP) — The Czech Republic has taken an unprecedented emergency measure and banned the sale of spirits with more than 20 percent alcohol content as it battles a wave of methanol poisonings that has already killed 19 people. Health Minister Leos Heger said Friday the ban was effective immediately and applies nationwide. It covers all possible sales locations, including restaurants, hotels, stores and the Internet. Kiosks and markets had earlier been banned from selling spirits with more than 30 percent alcohol content, but Heger said the measure has not been effective enough because “an absolute majority” of people who have been poisoned bought the toxic alcohol in restaurants, bars and stores. Heger said the ban could possibly take

weeks. It is estimated that up to 20 percent of all the liquor in restaurants across the country is likely made on the black market. That the death toll from the poisonings reached 19 Friday after a 66-year-old woman was found dead in the northeastern city of Havirov and the first person was hospitalized in Prague also prompted the minister to take the step, Heger said in a brief statement late Friday. Police said a 30-year man has been in critical condition in a Prague after buying toxic booze in a shop. Dozens of people have been hospitalized, some in critical condition after drinking vodka and rum laced with methanol. The problem has appeared largely centered in northeastern Czech Republic. Methanol is mainly used for industrial purposes, but unscrupulous criminal net-

works sometimes misuse it to illegally produce cheap liquor because it's cheap and impossible to distinguish from real drinking alcohol. Labs all across the country have been testing round the clock samples of suspicion alcohol that has been seized during police raids. Thousands of liters of illegal alcohol have been seized and almost 20 people arrested, but police spokeswoman Stepanka Zatloukalova said Friday it still wasn't clear what the sources are for the worst methanol poisoning “in decades.” Meanwhile, in Prague, restaurant manager Jonathan Weinstein said if the ban “were to last a month or two, of course, it's a big problem.” “It harms producers,” said Petr Pavlik, chairman of a Czech union of spirits producers. □



U.S. Ambassador to Poland Lee Feinstein, left, poses with Polish diplomats who had protected U.S. interests in Syria earlier this year and whose efforts were recognized in a ceremony in Warsaw, Poland, Friday, Sept. 14, 2012. Standing left to right are, Ambassador Michal Murkocinski, Ambassador Adam Kulach, Grzegorz Olszak, Marek Klek and Karol Grabowski. In February the Poles helped bring out of Syria the body of U.S. citizen, journalist Marie Colvin who was killed in a shelling in the city of Homs.

U.S. praises Poles who helped Americans in Syria

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — The United States is recognizing Polish diplomats who assisted American citizens in conflict-torn Syria earlier this year. Among other tasks, the five diplomats helped identify and recover from Syria the body of U.S. citizen Marie Colvin, a veteran correspondent for the Sunday Times of Lon-

don, who was killed in shelling in the city of Homs in February. The Polish team, led by Ambassador Adam Kulach, watched over American interests from the Polish Embassy in Damascus after the U.S. Embassy there closed in February as security deteriorated. Poland has since also closed its mission. □

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Cabinet panel wants Japan to end nuclear power use

MARI YAMAGUCHI

Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — A Cabinet panel on Friday called for Japan to phase out nuclear power over the next three decades in what would be a major shift of national energy policy prompted by the Fukushima meltdowns. Reversing Japan's decades-long advocacy of nuclear power is popular with the public, though it faces opposition from powerful business interests. The new policy calls for greater reliance on renewable energy, more conservation and sustainable use of fossil fuels and would see Japan joining Germany in turning its back on nuclear energy. The proposal requires endorsement by the entire Cabinet, which Japanese news reports say has already agreed to the changes.

Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda said the new policy was just the beginning of a long and difficult process. "We are only at the starting line," Noda said. "Now we are going to begin an extremely difficult challenge. No matter how difficult it is, we can no longer put it off." The phase-out of nuclear power by the 2030s is to be achieved mainly by retiring aging reactors and not replacing them.

Japan began reviewing its energy policy following last year's disaster at the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant, which was set off by a massive earthquake and tsunami.

Before the accident, the resource-poor country relied on nuclear power for one-



Tokyo Electric Power Co. President Naomi Hirose listens to a reporter's question during a news conference in Tokyo, Friday, Sept. 14, 2012.

Associated Press

third of its energy and had planned to raise that to 50 percent by 2030.

"Based on facing the reality of this grave accident and by learning lessons from the accident, the government has decided to review the national energy strategy from scratch," said the policy document.

"One of the key pillars of the new strategy is to achieve a society that does not depend on nuclear energy as soon as possible," it said. Growing anti-nuclear sentiment and mass protests made it difficult for the government and plant operators to restart reactors idled for inspections.

Imports of oil and gas for electricity generation have surged as a result and Japan's trade balance has swung into deficit.

The new policy is just a rough outline and further details will have to be decided later, National Policy Minister Motoshi Furukawa told a news conference.

But it reflects "the country's

commitment to overcome the harsh reality of the aftermath of the Fukushima accident," he said.

He and officials acknowledge many questions remain unanswered, among them how to pay for the costly expansion of renewable energy and how to minimize the environmental impact of a return to heavier use of natural gas and other fossil fuels.

The proposed new policy calls for adhering to a 40-year lifespan for each reactor and for building no more new reactors. It leaves open the possibility of restarting reactors before they are eventually phased out, but only if they have passed strict safety tests and won approval by a newly formed regulatory commission.

An allowed exception of a 20-year extension to the 40-year cap, as well as the ongoing construction of two new reactors, raised a question of whether Japan is serious about abandon-

ing nuclear energy.

"We will launch all possible policy measures to achieve a nuclear-free society by the 2030s," it said.

"Until the total phase-out we will only use nuclear reactors that are confirmed safe."

The new policy delays a decision on spent fuel processing and radioactive waste disposal, leaving open the questions of how Japan will handle its spent nuclear fuel and avoid accumulating stockpiles of plutonium. The new policy delays a decision on spent fuel processing and radioactive waste disposal, leaving open the questions of how Japan will handle its spent nuclear fuel and avoid accumulating stockpiles of plutonium. The new policy allows Japan to continue its fuel recycling program, despite the nuclear phase-out.

The contradiction prompted U.S.

Deputy Secretary of Energy Daniel Poneman to raise concerns about Japan's ability to reduce plutonium stockpiles, said senior Japanese ruling lawmaker Seiji Maehara, who met with Poneman in Washington this week.

Japan initially imported nuclear power technology from the U.S., while its fuel reprocessing relies heavily on Britain and France.

"The road to a nuclear-free society is not easy," it says, forecasting economic growth at a modest rate of 0.8 percent annually under a nuclear-free scenario.

Following Japan's 2011 Fukushima disaster, Germany decided to speed up phas-

ing out its nuclear power plants, shutting them down within a decade and betting on renewable energies instead.

Nuclear power had accounted for a little more than 20 percent of Germany's needs but has since fallen well below that level. Even France, an energy exporter heavily reliant upon atomic power, is scaling back its nuclear program. On Friday, President Francois Hollande announced he would close the country's oldest nuclear plant, Fessenheim, by the end of 2016. He said France will scale back its dependence on nuclear energy from 75 percent to 50 percent by 2025.

Energy experts note that relying more on renewable energy is easier for European countries that can draw on surplus power from neighboring countries when volatile wind and solar power fall short. As an island nation Japan lacks that option.

Noda allowed two of Japan's 50 working reactors to restart in July to avoid power shortages during the hot summer months.

At the time, Noda stressed that the restarts were crucial for Japan's economy and energy needs.

His government faces strong resistance to changes in the nuclear policy from business leaders worried by surging energy costs and from utility operators. Towns hosting the reactors — usually poor, remote fishing villages hungry for subsidies — also have complained of a loss of income and jobs. □

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A Sri Lankan police officer stands guard as ethnic Tamil voters leave a polling station after casting their votes in Batticaloa, Sri Lanka, Saturday, Sept. 8, 2012.

Associated Press

U.S. asks Sri Lanka to investigate wartime abuses

KRISHAN FRANCIS
 Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — A U.S. diplomat said Friday that he has asked Sri Lanka to speedily investigate allegations of rights abuses during its civil war and resume talks with ethnic Tamil politicians to agree on power sharing in the former conflict zone. Sri Lanka has said it may take up to five years to prosecute soldiers accused of killing ethnic Tamil civilians during the war. But U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Robert O. Blake said he emphasized the need to quickly act on a Sri Lankan war commission's recommendation of a government inquiry into the allegations.

"On issues of accountability, it is our hope that three years after the end of the conflict, there can be a credible and transparent accounting, investigation and prosecution of some of the outstanding and serious allegations of human rights violations, as well as progress on the missing," Blake said after concluding two days of meetings with Sri Lankan government of-

ficials in Sri Lanka's capital, Colombo.

The quarter-century civil war ended in May 2009 when troops defeated Tamil Tiger rebels trying to create an independent state for ethnic minority Tamils.

Blake said he also asked Sri Lanka's government to reduce the heavy military presence and its involvement in civil administration in the Tamil-majority, war-torn north. □

Police officer shot dead in Brazil's largest slum



Brazil's police officers conduct a search through the Rocinha slum for those responsible for the death of a fellow police officer in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Friday, Sept. 14, 2012.

Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — A police officer was slain while on foot patrol in Brazil's largest slum, military police said Friday.

Diego Bruno Barbosa Henriques was shot and killed overnight Thursday as he and three fellow officers patrolled Rio de Janeiro's sprawling Rocinha slum.

An operation was under way to apprehend Hen-

riques' assailants, and G1, the internet portal of the Globo television network, reported one suspect had been detained.

The suspect was carrying a 9-millimeter pistol, the same weapon used against Henriques, the report said.

The body Henriques, who had been on the force for about a year, was buried later Friday.

Police and soldiers took

over Rocinha in November as part of a large-scale program to restore the rule of law in Rio slums long under the control of heavily armed drug gangs and largely off-limits to authorities.

The government's reasserted control over the shantytown is seen as strategic as Rio prepares to host the 2014 soccer World Cup and 2016 Olympics. □

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Critics say Argentina leader wants another term



In this Dec. 10, 2011 file photo, Argentina's President Cristina Fernandez sings her country's national anthem after her swearing-in ceremony outside the government house in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Associated Press

ALMUDENA CALATRAVA

Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES (AP) — President Cristina Fernandez is being coy about whether she wants to stay in power after her constitutional term ends.

The possibility of "Cristina Forever" was mentioned a few weeks ago by several mayors, governors and lawmakers who want to run again but can't because of term limits imposed by local constitutions. Fernandez herself won the second of two four-year terms with 54 percent of the vote last October, and cannot run for a third consecutive term unless the national constitution is changed.

The president's critics and even a few of her supporters oppose changing the constitution to allow Fernandez to run again in 2015. "No one is irreplaceable," said conservative Buenos Aires Mayor Mauricio Macri, who is among the fiercest critics of Fernandez. He warned against the dangers of "getting embroiled in things of the ego, meanness and individualism."

But Fernandez, and mem-

bers of her inner circle, have not taken a public position. Some political analysts believe that Fernandez needs to have the possibility of a third term floating in the public's consciousness to maintain power.

"This is a political strategy by the president to survive politically," said journalist and political analyst Ignacio Fidanza, who runs the political website lapoliticaonline.com. "The subject of a possible third term for Fernandez arises because she needs it as a defense: she needs the threat of her permanence in power to maintain discipline among the Peronists."

Fernandez has headed the left wing of the Peronist party since the death of her husband and predecessor Nestor Kirchner, who was president from 2003-2007. She currently does not have a clear successor who could replace her in three years.

If the possibility of a third presidential term isn't floated now, Fernandez will lose influence in the 2013 congressional elections and the Peronist movement "will

search for new leaders and she will be isolated," Fidanza said.

"The worst thing for Argentina would be to have a powerless president," said Fidanza. Among the Peronist leaders with better prospects is the governor of Buenos Aires province, Daniel Scioli. But he has quietly voiced some disagreements with the president's supporters.

"Except Fernandez, there is no figure that could guarantee the continuity of the Kirchners' project," said Ricardo Rouvier, from the political consulting firm Ricardo Rouvier y Asociados. Fernandez has not made her intentions clear.

A few months ago she said she was "tired" of the duties that come with her office.

At a public event on Thursday, she told the audience: "Do not worry, I will be wherever I need to be, and I will continue to do what I have always done, which is to participate and work."

To run for the presidency again, Fernandez will need a much larger majority in Congress than the one she has now in order to change the constitution.

Opposition leaders, who have so far failed to produce a viable rival to Fernandez, have launched a campaign to collect signatures against any attempts at constitutional reform that would allow her to remain in power.

The opposition is also trying to take advantage of the president's recent slide in the polls because of unpopular moves such as the imposition of strict exchange controls, and to problems such as crime and inflation.

The possibility of a third term for Fernandez is especially unpopular among the middle class, which has been critical of the president, and the prospect of her staying in power was among the main complaints of a recent "cacerolazo," a protest in which citizens bang pots and pans from balconies and windows. □



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More than 100 Mystery Jackpots hit at the Casino at the Radisson



Palm Beach – The new Mystery Jackpots at the Casino at the Radisson continue to delight and thrill casino visitors who without any winning combination, land surprising jackpots, when they least expect them. Ann Jenkins, of Clifton NJ, hit the record paying slot machine #1004, twice, two days in a row, while her husband Scott Jenkins, on the couple's last night on the island hit slot machine #1502, for the same amount.

The new Mystery Jackpot promotion at the Casino at the Radisson awards players with cash, unexpectedly, as Mystery Jackpots are sprung at random on players who play their favorite slot machines with their Winners' Circle card inserted.

Hostess Emily Croes always enjoys posing with winners for souvenir pictures and hearing their comments, in praise of the unexpected win, such as Debra Zardas', from Wakefield, MA, who won a \$1,500 Jackpot, as well as a mystery jackpot on her 30th wedding anniversary. Thirty years ago, the Zardas came to Aruba on their honeymoon! □



Aruba – I Am Your Island® 2013 Calendar Has Arrived



Photos © 2012 Werner J. Bertsch

Award-winning photographer and publisher Werner J. Bertsch's annual Photographic Aruba Calendar is now available at all De-witt locations, as well as a variety of souvenir stores throughout the island. The 12 X 12 inch sized calendar has plenty of room to make appointment notations, personal comments and

to mark special occasions. This 2013 calendar compliments Werner's recently published book, Aruba I am Your Island, which has been available since May 2012. The stunning colorful photographs chosen for the 2013 calendar, utilizing HDR Photography (High Dynamic Range), feature Aruba's tropical scenes: its sunrises;

the beautiful beaches; the intensive colors and the abundant island charm of the locals. From the pristine beaches of Palm Beach to the rugged North Coast Shore, each photo in this large wall calendar tells a story of Aruba. As a bonus, each month includes a local favorite island recipe such as Chobolobo,



Photos © 2012 Werner J. Bertsch

Beauty On The Beach

Sarah Iddon

From London, England, and this is her first time in Aruba and she is staying at Occidental Resort, she will be in Aruba till September 26th. She and her husband are enjoying the sun very much on their Honeymoon.

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Arepita di Pampuna and Bolo di Maishi. Werner's challenge each year is to capture different and exciting photographs of Aruba in new and exciting ways. Various elements such as light, shadows and contrast can change each subject, but through his years as a photographer, Werner has learned to be patient and wait for that moment when the subject

is just perfect In addition to photography and publishing, Werner also teaches photography classes in Aruba. Workshops and/or one-on-one instructions offer various elements and topics depending on the student's interest and levels of achievement. Information about the workshops can be found at www.CaribbeanPhotoWorkshop.com. □

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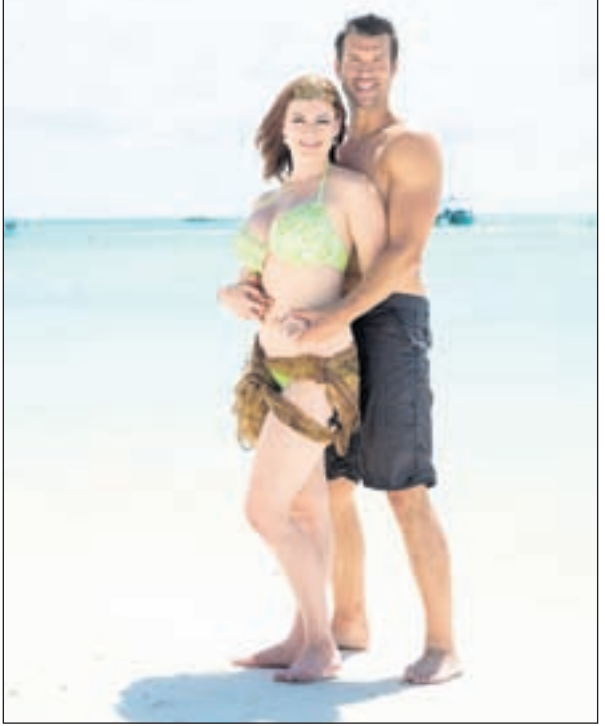
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Big Brother's Brendon Villegas and Rachel Reilly honeymoon at Aruba Marriott 's Tradewinds Club



PALM BEACH, ARUBA (SEPTEMBER 13, 2012) – Reality stars Brendon Villegas & Rachel Reilly, known from CBS' "Big Brother" series and "The Amazing Race" are honeymooning in Aruba. The couple married last Saturday atop the AT&T Center in downtown Los Angeles, where the bride arrived via helicopter at their wedding. They chose boutique hotel Tradewinds Club at the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino to spend their honeymoon together. "We love it here", says Reilly smiling. "It is our first time in Aruba and we are enjoying it every bit". The Aruba Marriott Resort congratulates the happy couple and wishes them the best of luck. □



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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. Visit their retail store located in front of the Historic Dutch Windmill in front of the Westin Resort, with any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 9 am to 1 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort



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The Radisson Appreciates Excellence, with second quarter awards



Palm Beach – The second quarter awards at the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa were bestowed over lunch at the resort and included Brigitte Hernandez of Banquets, for April. She was cited for her hard work and creativity and her ever-willingness to lend a hand in the interest of the company. Edwin Tromp of Engineering; Adriana Herran of Beverage and Jairo Maduro of Guest

Services, also received nominations for their stellar performance in April. Nolfort Valencia of Engineering was the winner for the month of May. He was commended for his positive ideas and suggestions aiming to increase departmental performance and the efficiency of building systems. Kimberly Ruiz of Housekeeping, Ternura Ortin of Food & Beverage and Kimberly Akins



of the Front Office also received a nomination in reward for their positive contributions to the resort. For June Colleague of the Month, Omar Castañeda of Housekeeping, outshone all others accepting tasks outside his realm of responsibility. He was lauded for completing his assignments efficiently and fast. His fellow-nominees Jose Miguel Alcantara of Engineering and Marilu Erasmus of the Sunset Grille, were also applauded for superior performance and conduct.



Supervisor of the 2nd Quarter, Helena Dake of Accounting, distinguished herself with the outstanding administration and customer-service skills she demonstrated. Taking time to resolve all discrepancies and reconcile all accounts. Other nominees for the 2nd Quarter were Frans van Vught of Landscaping, and Soraida Werleman of Housekeeping. Pictured here, those nomi-



nated and the winners, true Yes, I Can champions, at the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa. □

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The inspiration for a good American style hamburger comes right from the owners backyard grill. Aaron Walisever – before his 'retirement' – was known as "The King of Fireplaces & Grills" in New England. Moving to Aruba from Sharon, Massachusetts with his wife Rosie was a positive move all around – but their search for a good burger and fries didn't stretch far from home. It was this reason that Rosie & Aaron opened 5 Burgers Aruba! As the name implies, there are 5 specialty burgers offered including a mammoth Western Burger, a tasty melted Gouda Burger, a Farmers Burger complete with a fried egg. For the very hungry, a 3 patty Man Burger and to round out the specials – a zesty chicken breast with special sauce is also available.

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SPORTS

Aruba TODAY



Suzann Pettersen, left, and Christie Kerr, right, talk to a rules official about the suspension of play during day two of the Women's British Open at the Royal Liverpool Golf Course, in Hoylake, England, Friday Sept. 14, 2012.
Associated Press

Play cancelled at Women's British from high winds

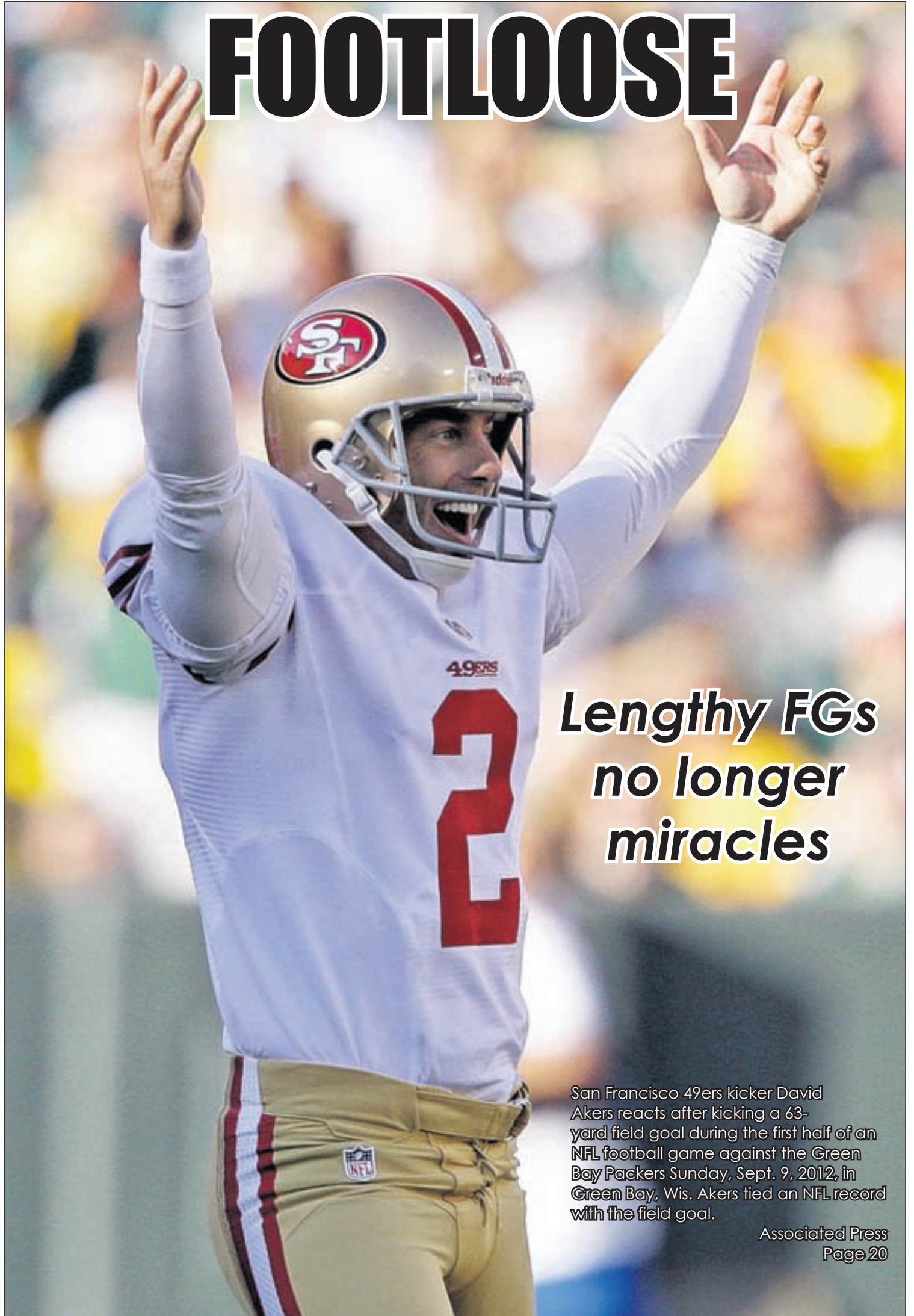
TREVOR PEAKE
Associated Press

HOYLAKE, England (AP) — Play was called off for the day at the Women's British Open on Friday because of strong winds that disrupted the second round so badly that organizers declared early scores "null and void." With winds gusting up to 60 mph, players struggled to keep the ball on the tees and greens before the round was suspended after an hour in the morning. Organizers had hoped to restart in mid-afternoon but decided later that no play was possible.

Organizers of the Ricoh-sponsored event said the morning scores wouldn't count because of the adverse weather.

"It would have been unfair to those competitors not to declare play null and void and cancel all scores for the round in question," Ladies Golf Union tournament director Susan Simpson said in a statement. □

FOOTLOOSE



Lengthy FGs no longer miracles

San Francisco 49ers kicker David Akers reacts after kicking a 63-yard field goal during the first half of an NFL football game against the Green Bay Packers Sunday, Sept. 9, 2012, in Green Bay, Wis. Akers tied an NFL record with the field goal.

Associated Press
Page 20

Spain sweeps U.S. in singles for 2-0 Davis Cup lead

PAUL LOGOTHETIS

AP Sports Writer

GIJON, Spain (AP) — David Ferrer and Nicolas Almagro gave Spain a commanding 2-0 lead over the United States in their Davis Cup semifinal on Friday after doggedly defending their near-perfect clay court records in the competition. Ferrer overcame a sluggish start to put the hosts ahead in the best-of-five series with a 4-6, 6-2, 6-2, 6-4 win over Sam Querrey. Almagro then overcame John Isner's constant fight-backs in a 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5 victory. The duo improved to 23-1 on clay in Davis Cup action. Almagro overcame 25 aces from Isner, who saved three match points before hitting a forehand long to leave the defending champions one point away from their fourth final

in five years.

The U.S. has only rallied back to win from a 0-2 deficit once in 38 ties — in 1934 against Australia. Since the start of World Group play, Spain is 37-0 after winning both the opening singles. "After the effort the Americans showed today, we know that final point won't be easy," Spain captain Alex Corretja said. "They've shown they've come here to give everything." The U.S. has to win Saturday's doubles to stay alive, and will feel confident about their chance with American brothers Mike and Bob Bryan facing Marcel Granollers and Marc Lopez. The Bryan twins are 4-0 when the U.S. is facing a 2-0 deficit, and are 5-0 against Spain. "Nothing's impossible," U.S. captain Jim Courier said. "There's no clock in tennis and it al-



John Isner of US serves the ball during the second single match at Davis Cup World Group Semi-final tennis match against Spain's Nicolas Almagro, in Gijon, northern Spain, Friday, Sept. 14, 2012. Almagro won the match 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5.

ways comes down to who wins the last point." Even without Rafael Nadal in the lineup, Ferrer and Almagro showed they could lead Spain to victory. While Querrey wasted nine break opportunities in the

fourth set of his match to lose, Isner took advantage of his lone one in the fourth set of his match to stretch it to a fifth and deciding frame. As the light quickly faded, neither player relented on serve. Isner fired

another ace to save a 16th break point before three of his 124 errors on the day undid him in the final game. Isner netted on consecutive points to give Almagro his last match point, which the plucky Spaniard converted when Isner's forehand sailed long. "Those were pretty bad errors, they were simple shots especially from volleys. I should have made all of them," Isner said. "Maybe fatigue played a part, but I did such a good job of hanging in there the whole fourth set and I sort of gave it away in that last set." Ferrer, who played in the U.S. Open semifinals on Sunday, started well with a break but eventually surrendered his only two service games of the match for the defending champions to trail after the first set. □

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Packers run fake FG, beat Bears 23-10

GREEN BAY, Wisconsin (AP) — The Green Bay Packers scored a touchdown from a fake field goal and made a series of sacks and interceptions to beat the Chicago Bears 23-10 in the NFL on Monday.

On a night when defenses dominated at Lambeau Field, the Packers got creative, and it worked.

With the Packers facing fourth-and-26 on the Chicago 27-yard line late in the second quarter, Tim Masthay, the punter who also functions as the holder on field goals, and kicker Mason Crosby appeared to line up for a field goal attempt.

But Masthay took the snap and flipped the ball to tight end Tom Crabtree, who ran through a huge hole and streaked all the way to the end zone.

"That's a gutsy call," Green Bay quarterback Aaron Rodgers said. "It worked out."

While that was the eye-catching play, the Packers victory was underpinned by the defense, which rattled and robbed Chicago quarterback Jay Cutler all night.



Green Bay Packers' Clay Matthews (52) sacks Chicago Bears' Jay Cutler (6) during the second half of an NFL football game Thursday, Sept. 13, 2012, in Green Bay, Wis.

Associated Press

Cutler threw four interceptions, including a pair to Tramon Williams. A fierce Packers pass rush sacked Cutler seven times, with Clay Matthews credited with 3 1-2 of them.

MVP appeared to hurt his right arm early in the game, but he stayed in.

Crosby hit three field goals for Green Bay, including a 54-yarder in the fourth quarter. □

"Clay was incredible," Rodgers said. "Defense causing turnovers, if they play like this we're going to be hard to beat."

Cutler was 11 for 27 for 126 yards. Earlier in the week, he had wished the Packers' defensive backs "good luck" in trying to match up with a new-look wide receiver corps led by Brandon Marshall. Stalked by Williams for much of the night, Marshall didn't see much of the ball, taking two receptions for 34 yards.

And he couldn't convert his one big opportunity, dropping a potential touchdown in the third quarter. Chicago also lost running back Matt Forte to an ankle injury. Forte provided much of what little offense the Bears could muster before leaving the game in the third. Rodgers finished the game 22 of 32 for 219 yards with a touchdown and an interception.

He got sacked five times. Green Bay got a scare when the NFL



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Lengthy field goals in NFL are no miracles

BARRY WILNER

AP Pro Football Writer

David Akers called his 63-yard field goal at Lambeau Field "a miracle."

That's exaggerating. NFL kickers are trying and making longer field goals every year, and Akers' record-tying kick last weekend easily could be exceeded this season — provided the circumstances are right.

"I'm guessing probably everybody's always had the ability to do it," said the Atlanta Falcons' Matt Bryant, who has a 62-yarder. "That would be my thinking. It's just actually getting a chance to do it."

Akers received his opportunity at the end of the first half against Green Bay. San Francisco coach Jim Harbaugh had seen Akers hit from 60 yards in warmups — some kickers don't even bother trying from that distance before games — and felt good about going for it.

At 37, Akers' leg is getting stronger. He set a single-season record with 44 field goals in his first season with the 49ers last year, including 7 of 9 from 50 yards and beyond. He is de-

pendable and relatively immune to pressure after spending a dozen seasons in Philadelphia.

But he didn't think the kick had a chance.

"There's no way I hit it good enough," Akers thought.

"It wasn't like there was like some big wind gust or anything, it just kept kind of going," he added. "I went a little slower and tried to hit the ball a little higher up to try to drive it a little bit — kind of hit my 3-iron and see what happens. It tracked real nice." Then it hit the goalpost and bounced over, tying Akers with Tom Dempsey (1970), Jason Elam (1998) and Sebastian Janikowski (2011) for the record. It may not be long before someone exceeds the mark.

The number of attempts from 60 yards or longer per year increased from two in 2007 to seven last season. From 55 and longer, still a prodigious distance, there were 16 attempts in '07 and 28 last year. There already were two on opening weekend, with Minnesota rookie Blair Walsh hitting a 55-yarder to tie the game at the end



San Diego Chargers kicker Nate Kaeding (10) kicks a field goal from the hold of punter Mike Scifres (5) during the first half of an NFL football game against the Oakland Raiders in Oakland, Calif., Monday, Sept. 10, 2012..

Associated Press

of regulation.

The success rate from 55-plus is such that coaches don't see anything miraculous about trying one, even with a rookie.

"I was thinking game-tying field goal the whole way," Minnesota special teams coach Mike Priefer said. "And to be honest with you, anything in that situation inside of 65, you've got to go for it to tie the game to send it to overtime."

Walsh came through, then

he kicked a more-normal 38-yarder to win it.

A major reason teams are willing to gamble from long range is that place-kickers no longer are afterthoughts on rosters. Indeed, they are athletes, good athletes with backgrounds playing other positions or other sports.

Fred Pinciario, a kicking coach who works with Connor Barth (Tampa Bay), Neil Rackers (Washington), Josh Brown (New York Jets) and Shayne

Graham (Houston), plus college and high school kickers, was training several of them in St. Louis. Some youngsters at the high school were playing soccer and "my guys jumped in and played a bit and played well. Josh Brown was a phenomenal gymnast and can play really good soccer."

Pinciario sees kickers who regularly lift weights and work with conditioning coaches — beginning at the youth level. One of his high school students practices kicks from 50 yards out, in part because there's a lake behind the field and they don't want to get too close and lose the ball. Still, the kid is nailing them from that far away.

Most NFL kickers have been college standouts and weren't shaken by pressure kicks in front of huge crowds or on national TV.

They also are getting in-depth coaching in college, which hones their fundamentals, the key to success at any level.

"When I work with my pro kickers, we practice at 45 and 50 yards, so when they make them at 45 and 50 it is just a good natural strike," Pinciario said. "Hit the ball well and do all the technical things they need to do well."

Akers said he can't wait for another shot.

"It was neat to be part of," Akers said. "You don't get an opportunity like that. It's kind of like a golfer hitting a hole-in-one. □"

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NFL Preview

Reid meets protégé Harbaugh in Week 2

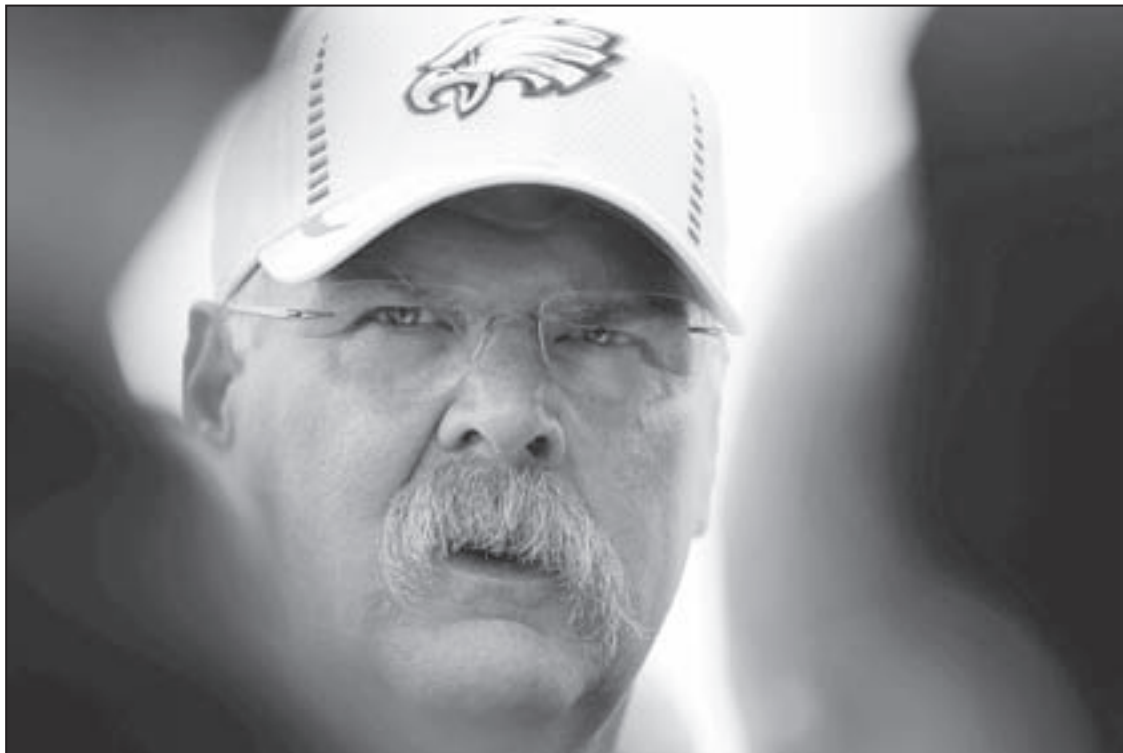
BARRY WILNER

AP Pro Football Writer

Philadelphia Eagles coach Andy Reid looks at John Harbaugh and sees exactly what he should be seeing. "He's a football coach. He's a teacher," Reid said of his former assistant who has led the Ravens to the NFL playoffs in all four seasons he's been the head man in Baltimore. "He's intelligent and a hard worker. He's tough and good with people. Those are qualities that you need to advance as you move up the coaching ladder."

Like Reid, the longest-tenured head coach in the NFL who has taken the Eagles to five NFC title games and one Super Bowl, Harbaugh is way up on that ladder. He's become the first coach in league history to lead a team to playoff wins in his first four seasons. On Sunday, he brings his Ravens up I-95 to Lincoln Field to face Reid's Eagles. The Ravens and Eagles took different paths to victory in their openers. Philadelphia needed a late touchdown to beat Cleveland 17-16 and avoid a major upset. Baltimore, on the other hand, dominated Cincinnati 44-13, getting four sacks and an interception return for a touchdown by veteran safety Ed Reed. "Ed Reed, even though he spells his name wrong, he's a heck of a player too," Reid joked.

There wasn't much joking around Philly after the Eagles barely won. Michael Vick was picked off four times and threw a career-high 56 times, way too many by his own account. "I can't dwell on what happened last game because I just don't plan on hav-



Philadelphia Eagles coach Andy Reid speaks with reporters at the team's NFL football training facility, Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2012, in Philadelphia.

ing that type of ballgame again," Vick said.

After neutralizing potent Green Bay at Lambeau Field, the San Francisco 49ers face another high-powered offense in the Detroit Lions, but this time at Candlestick Park. If San Francisco's defense can play anything like it did in Green Bay, it will set a physical tone that most offenses can't handle.

The physical tone at the end of last year's meeting, when the 49ers won at Detroit and then Lions coach Jim Schwartz took offense at being slapped on the back by Niners coach Jim Harbaugh, could have a carryover.

"Yeah, for sure," 49ers quarterback Alex Smith said. "I think anytime you play recently in a game like that — they were undefeated, we were 5-1 going into that, it was a big televised game, hard fought, com-

ing down to the, basically the last play — no question, anytime those games happen they stick with you." The Pittsburgh Steelers welcome the New York Jets, having owned them in 15 of their 19 games. But New York has taken the last two regular-season meetings and won at Pittsburgh for the first time in 2010.

Pittsburgh could be undermanned again with linebacker James Harrison and running back Rashard Mendenhall questionable.

Coming off an offensive outburst in which the Jets showed how little the preseason means — the starting offense scored 34 of the 48 points against Buffalo after not finding the end zone

at all in exhibition games — another such display against the Steel Curtain would be noteworthy.

"I knew we had an explosive team," Jets passer Mark Sanchez said. "I knew we could run the football well. I knew I was playing better than I have the past three years and that if we take care of the football we can play well, nothing different. I didn't necessarily expect it to go exactly the way it went, but we're capable of having games like that ..."

Also on Sunday, it's Arizona at New England, Dallas at Seattle, Washington at St. Louis, Tampa Bay at the New York Giants, New Orleans at Carolina, Houston at Jacksonville, Tennessee at San Diego, Minnesota at Indianapolis, Kansas City at Buffalo, Cleveland at Cincinnati, and Oakland at Miami. Denver is at Atlanta on Monday.

The week's action began on Thursday when the Green Bay Packers pulled off a fake field goal for a touchdown in a 23-10 victory over the Chicago Bears at Lambeau. □

Associated Press

Sparks boost home playoff hopes, beat Sky

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles Sparks boosted their chances of taking home-court advantage in the WNBA playoffs by beating Chicago 87-77 on Thursday, denting the Sky's postseason ambitions.

Rookie Nneka Ogwumike scored a career-high 30 points and had 11 rebounds while DeLisha Milton-Jones added 19 points for Los Angeles, which has a 13-1 home record.

The Sparks moved two games ahead

of San Antonio for second place in the Western Conference with four games remaining. The top two teams get home-court advantage in the playoffs.

Swin Cash scored 19 of her 23 points in the second half for Chicago, which fell a game behind New York for the fourth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference. Sky center Sylvia Fowles, an Olympian and the WNBA's second-leading rebounder, missed her third straight game because of a strained calf. □

AL Capsules

Machado's walk-off hit wraps up Os' sweep of Rays

The Associated Press

BALTIMORE (AP) — Manny Machado blooped an RBI single that eluded left fielder Matt Joyce's desperate dive with two outs in the 14th inning, and the Baltimore Orioles beat the Tampa Bay Rays 3-2 Thursday to complete a three-game sweep and remain atop the AL East.

With their 81st victory — and 13th in a row in extra innings — the Orioles are assured no worse than a .500 record for the first time since 1997. Baltimore (81-62) remained in a first-place tie with the New York Yankees.

In a 5-hour, 14-minute game, Chris Archer (0-3) walked Adam Jones with two outs in the 14th, Endy Chavez singled and Machado followed with a soft liner toward the line that Joyce trapped.

Randy Wolf (2-0) struck out Joyce with two on in the top of the 14th. Baltimore has won 14 of 19 overall and is 26-11 since Aug. 3.

YANKEES 2, RED SOX 0

BOSTON (AP) — Derek Jeter shook off an injury to tie Willie Mays for 10th place on the career hits list, backing Phil Hughes



New York Yankees' Derek Jeter swings on an RBI single off Boston Red Sox pitcher Junichi Tazawa during the seventh inning of a baseball game, Thursday, Sept. 13, 2012, at Fenway Park in Boston. The New York Yankees shortstop caught Willie Mays for 10th place on baseball's all-time hit list
Associated Press

and helping the Yankees to maintain a share of the AL East lead. New York won consecutive games for the first time in a month.

Hughes (15-12) gave up five hits in 7 1-3 innings, struck out seven and walked one. Rafael Soriano pitched the ninth for his 38th save.

Jeter started at designated hitter after leaving Wednesday night's 5-4 win when he pulled up lame lunging for first base trying to avoid a double-play grounder in the eighth.

Andruw Jones hit a fourth-inning sacrifice fly off Felix Doubront (10-9).

ANGELS 6, ATHLETICS 0

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Jered Weaver (17-4) allowed two hits in seven innings and struck out nine in his first start since skipping a turn in the rotation because of biceps tendinitis.

Torii Hunter homered and added an RBI single in a six-run seventh as Los Angeles avoided a four-game sweep and remained 3½ games back for the AL's

second wild-card berth.

The loss snapped Oakland's 12-game road winning streak, two shy of the franchise record set by the Philadelphia Athletics in May 1931.

The A's have been shut out a big league-high 16 times. Brett Anderson (4-1) gave up five runs and nine hits in 6 2-3 innings. A's rookie Yoenis Cespedes left midway through the fifth because of a sprained right wrist.

INDIANS 5, RANGERS 4

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) —

Jason Kipnis hit a two-run homer in the ninth inning off Joe Nathan and the Indians snapped a five-game losing streak, beating the Rangers.

The Rangers remained three games ahead of Oakland in the AL West after the Athletics lost to the Los Angeles Angels.

Nathan (2-4) had converted a club-record 31 straight save chances before the Indians erased a 4-2 deficit in the ninth.

Ezequiel Carrera homered leading off the ninth. Pinch hitter Russ Canzler singled and Kipnis homered off to chase Nathan, who did not record an out.

Scott Maine (1-0) got the final two outs in the eighth in his third appearance with the Indians this season.

BLUE JAYS 8, MARINERS 3

TORONTO (AP) — Edwin Encarnacion hit his 40th home run, Adam Lind also connected and Toronto sent Felix Hernandez to his third straight loss.

Encarnacion hit a three-run drive into the second deck in left in a five-run fourth as the Blue Jays avoided a three-game sweep. Lind hit a two-run shot in the first. □



St. Louis Cardinals' Allen Craig hits and RBI single during the seventh inning of their baseball game against the Los Angeles Dodgers, Thursday, Sept. 13, 2012, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

NL Capsules

Cards edge Dodgers 2-1, extend wild-card lead

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Allen Craig drove in Shane Robinson with the go-ahead run in the seventh inning, and the St. Louis Cardinals extended their NL wild-card lead over Los Angeles to two games with a 2-1 victory over the struggling Dodgers on Thursday night.

Lance Lynn (15-7) pitched six innings of five-hit ball to earn his first win since July 27 for the Cardinals, striking out seven in the All-Star's return to the rotation after a bullpen demotion.

Skip Schumaker had an early run-scoring single for

St. Louis.

Adrian Gonzalez had an RBI double in the Dodgers' seventh loss in eight games.

St. Louis and Los Angeles had lost three straight and six of seven coming in. Paco Rodriguez (0-1) and Ronald Belisario allowed the seventh-inning rally capped by Craig's RBI single.

ASTROS 6, PHILLIES 4

HOUSTON (AP) — Pinch-hitter Jed Lowrie delivered a two-run double in the eighth inning and the Astros stung Philadelphia, rallying for a 6-4 victory that ended

the Phillies' seven-game winning streak.

The Phillies' surge had pushed them within three games of St. Louis for the second NL wild-card spot. Philadelphia couldn't hold an early 4-0 lead, and Lowrie's two-out put the Astros ahead 5-4.

Matt Dominguez hit a three-run homer for Houston, which has the worst record in the majors.

Phillippe Aumont (0-1) took over in the eighth with a 4-3 lead.

Wesley Wright (1-2) got the last two outs of the eighth for the win. □

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Nintendo's Wii U to launch Nov. 18, start at \$300

BARBARA ORTUTAY

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Nintendo has a knack for changing the course of video games, appealing to the masses from kids to grandparents even if its technology isn't the most advanced. The creator of "Mario Bros." and "Donkey Kong" said Thursday that it will launch its first high-definition gaming console on Nov. 18 in the U.S., later that month in Europe and on Dec. 8 in Japan.

It's the first major game console to launch in years. But Nintendo is merely catching up on HD with Sony Corp. and Microsoft Corp., which began selling their own HD consoles six and seven years ago, respectively. The question is whether a touch-screen tablet controller, coupled with TV-watching features, will be enough to surpass them.

The original Wii console revolutionized gaming and surpassed its rivals not because it had more power or better graphics, but because it gave people a new way to play. Its motion-sensing controller wasn't the most advanced, but it got people off the couch, swinging virtual tennis rackets, bowling and flailing around in living rooms around the world. But over the years the novelty faded even as the Xbox 360 and the PlayStation 3 have managed to keep loyal, hardcore gamers enthused with massive shooters and multiplayer features.

Whether the Wii U can bring people back will de-



Nintendo's Wii U GamePad is unveiled, Thursday, Sept. 13, 2012 in New York. The gaming console will start at \$300 and go on sale in the U.S. on Nov. 18, in time for the holidays, the company said Thursday.
Associated Press

pend on Nintendo's ability to lure people in with classic games from "Mario" to "Call of Duty," entertainment features that go beyond gaming and a price that doesn't break the bank.

Nintendo first announced plans for the Wii U last year, but it hadn't disclosed the price or availability date until Thursday.

The Wii U will start at \$300 for a basic model, which is just \$50 more than what the Wii initially sold for. For \$350, gamers can buy a deluxe version that is black instead of white. The deluxe model will also have a charging stand for its controller, 32 gigabytes of memory instead of 8 and "Nintendo Land," a smorgasbord of 12 popular Nintendo games.

Nintendo Co. has been trying to drum up excitement for the Wii U.

What sets it apart from other consoles is the tablet-like Wii U GamePad. This controller allows for asymmetrical gameplay, so two

or more people can play the same game but have different experiences. Players can also turn off the TV entirely and play on the GamePad, watching the game on the tablet's screen and using the controllers on the sides.

In the "New Super Mario Bros. U," for example, players holding the old Wii controllers guide Mario, Luigi and other characters. The person with the GamePad can help them along by using a stylus on the tablet's touch screen to stun enemies or create stepping stones for the characters. The new Mario game, which will be available when the Wii U launches, will also offer new challenges for advanced Mario players, such as trying to complete a level without touching the ground.

The Wii U GamePad will be included with each console. But the packages won't include the old-school Wii controllers, though they can be used



Zack Fountain, Nintendo's director of Network Business, discusses Nintendo TVii, Thursday, Sept. 13, 2012 in New York.
Associated Press

to play the games. That's because Nintendo says there are enough of them out there, considering that nearly 97 million Wiis have been sold worldwide — compared with nearly 70 million Xbox 360s and about 64 million PlayStation 3s.

Sterne Agee analyst Arvind Bhatia said that the Wii U's technology doesn't make it a real, true "next generation" gaming console. He said it really matches the Xbox 360.

"But what has always helped Nintendo is the games they can put on it that nobody can," he added.

"They don't necessarily need everything to be cutting-edge."

"Mario," "Pikmin" and other classic games have long been Nintendo's main draw.

Bhatia said sales expectations for the Wii U are fairly low, and Nintendo will be considered successful if the number of Wii Us it sell amounts to half the Wiis it sold.

That said, GameStop Presi-

dent Tony Bartel expects it to be a "really strong seller" this holiday season. Although a lot of gaming these days takes place on mobile devices, Bartel said "true immersive gaming is still owned by consoles."

Nintendo also announced new entertainment features for the console.

Called Nintendo TVii, the service collects all the ways users have to watch movies, TV shows and sports. So if you like the TV show "Modern Family," for example, it will pull in the show's episodes from every available source, whether that's on Hulu, Netflix or traditional cable TV.

The GamePad works as a fancy remote controller and will let viewers browse shows they can watch. Users will be able to select favorites and send them to other Wii users in their network as suggestions. In addition, families will be able to set up separate profiles, so that kids don't end up watching the drug-dealing drama "Breaking Bad," for example. □

Buying American in Tehran: Apples, razors and Coke

**BRIAN MURPHY
NASSER KARIMI**

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — The Great Satan still sells in Iran. Even after decades of diplomatic estrangement and tightening economic sanctions, American products manage to find their way into the Iranian marketplace. The routes are varied: back channel exporters, licensing workarounds and straightforward trade for goods not covered by the U.S. embargoes over Iran's nuclear program. It offers lessons in the immense difficulties facing Western attempts to isolate Iran's economy, which has deepening trade links with Asia where distributors serve as middlemen to funnel U.S. and other goods to Iranian merchants. But sanctions are also battering Iran's currency and driving up costs for all imports, which could increase domestic pressures on Iran's ruling system. Although the number of Made-in-America items in Iran is dwarfed by the exports from Europe, China and neighboring Turkey, some of the best-known U.S. brands can be tracked down in Tehran and other large cities. It's possible to check your emails on an iPhone, sip a Coke and hit the gym in a pair of Nikes. "I'm always looking for what new Apple products are in the windows," said Kamyar Niaki, a 19-year-old freshman at Tehran's Azad University, as he played Angry Birds on his iPhone 4S — about \$800 in Iran — at a northern Tehran shopping mall popular with young people for its selection of computers, mobile phones, software and apps. The iPhones and other Apple products typically enter Iran through networks in Dubai or from Asian distributors, which also ship everything from lower-cost MacBook fakes to bogus Levi's and Tommy Hilfiger. Similar trade routes from the Far East or nearby Dubai also bring in Westinghouse appliances, Mi-



In this picture taken on Saturday, Sept. 8, 2012, Iranian shopkeeper Amir Ali Beheshti, an Apple products seller, works on a lap top in his store, in an electronics market in northern Tehran, Iran.
Associated Press

crosoft programs. And they were probably also responsible for the Epiphone model guitar by Nashville-based Gibson that Ali Mahmoudi bought for his oldest son last week for about \$1,200 — more than double the price in the United States. "My son learned from his classmates in high school that American guitars are still the best," said Mahmoudi, an engineer. Middle-aged Iranians have memories of a time when stores were awash with U.S. products and the Cadillac was the gold standard on the roads, which still have some Detroit behemoths from the 1970s weaving through Tehran's relentless traffic. The U.S. became vilified as the Great Satan after the 1979 Islamic Revolution, and chants of "Death to America" remain a staple at Friday prayers at Tehran University. But even Iran's leadership could not stamp out the taste for Coke and Pepsi. Both iconic American drinks have been mainstays for years in one of the Middle East's largest consumer markets with 75 million people. The U.S. Treasury sanctions on Iran give some leeway for food and beverages, allowing The Coca-Cola Co. and PepsiCo to work through non-U.S. subsidiaries to ship their syrup to Ira-



In this picture taken on Saturday, Sept. 8, 2012, Iranian worker Mahmoud Kouhi, carries to cans of Coca cola beverage, in a grocery store in northern Tehran, Iran.
Associated Press

nian bottlers and distributors. It's brought some backlash from hard-liners who cringe at the popularity of Coke and Pepsi at the expense of local rival Zamzam Cola, named after a venerated well in the Islamic holy city of Mecca. Zamzam is owned by a government-backed foundation. Yet in the cola wars, Iran is struggling. Reza Kazemi, a worker at a government-owned Tehran hospital, carried a family-size Coke — 1.5 liters at the equivalent of 50 cents — among his groceries from a shop in downtown Tehran. "My wife and three children like it," he said. "It's delicious." The same shop stocks Gillette razors and Pampers diapers, both made by Procter & Gamble Co., whose

health care products are not blocked by sanctions. "Since a long time ago, Iranians have learned that American products are among the best," said Masoud Mohajer, an economic columnist who writes for Iranian newspapers and journals. "If the government bans them, they will infiltrate the Iranian market through smugglers since there is a market for them because of their reputations." Last year, American companies exported \$229 million worth of products to Iran not blocked by sanctions, according to U.S. government and independent figures cited by the U.S. Institute of Peace. The list is as eclectic as it gets: Frozen bull semen, ar-

tificial teeth, chewing gum, cranberries, toothpicks and antibiotics. The top U.S. export last year: more than \$11.2 million worth of butter. The figure has seesawed over the years, from a high of \$747 million in U.S. exports to Iran in 1992 to just \$28,000 in 1998, the institute said. Iran also buys U.S. commodities such as wheat, corn and soybeans. Until U.S. sanctions were tightened in recent years, some major American companies such as heavy equipment maker Caterpillar, General Electric Co. and Hewlett-Packard Co. had a presence in the Iranian market through non-U.S. affiliates or distributors. But all later said they were canceling any ties with Iran — following similar moves by European heavyweights including Germany's appliance maker Siemens AG, steel and machinery company ThyssenKrupp AG and Italian energy company ENI. Much of the sanctions-covered American products arrive via networks in Asia in which buyers legally purchase U.S. goods and then reship them to Iran. Previously, the primary route was through Dubai, but authorities in the United Arab Emirates have significantly stepped up inspections of Iran-bound cargo for possible U.S. sanctions violations. "Dubai is like a hypermarket for Iran," Ahmed Butti Ahmed, executive chairman and director general at Dubai Customs, said in April. A Tehran-based technology industry analyst, Jafar Tehrani, said the UAE is still a main jump-off point for iPhones and other Apple products coming to Iran. "Technology does not recognize borders. Apple is very popular in Iran, and customers have no problem except after-sale services," said Tehrani. This is where hackers such as 23-year-old Amir comes in. He charges between \$5 and \$10 to "jailbreak" an iPhone to work on Iran's domestic mobile network. □



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Fed's bold plan still might not jolt economy

**MARTIN CRUTSINGER
PAUL WISEMAN
AP Economics Writers**

WASHINGTON (AP) — No sooner did the Federal Reserve unveil a bold plan to juice the U.S. economy than it offered the prospect of doing even more.

Investors celebrated Thursday by sending stock prices jumping. Economists were less impressed. Many wondered how much the central bank's action would help.

Chairman Ben Bernanke himself urged everyone to keep expectations in check. "I personally don't think that it's going to solve the problem," Bernanke said at a news conference. "But I do think it has enough force to help nudge the economy in the right direction." The Fed's move to buy \$40 billion a month in mortgage bonds — the heart of its plan — might do little to spur borrowing and spending because rates on mortgages and other loans are already just above record lows of near zero.

The bond purchases, and the Fed's signal that more help might be needed, pointed to just how weak the U.S. economy remains three years after the recession ended. The economy is still struggling to emerge from damage caused by the 2008 financial crisis — the worst since the Great Depression.

The Fed's plan raises questions about the limits of its own power. Even with its intervention, the Fed foresees unemployment remaining as high as a recession-level 6.8 percent as late as 2015. Still, the Dow Jones industrial average shot up more than 200 points Thursday, reaching its highest point

since the start of the Great Recession nearly five years ago. The Dow is now within 625 points of its all-time high. It ended the day at 13,540.

In the face of persistently high unemployment and slow economic growth, the Fed said it would do the following: — Buy \$40 billion a month in mortgage bonds indefinitely to try to lower long-term interest rates, encourage home buying and get people to borrow and spend more. It's the Fed's third bond-buying program. If job growth doesn't improve much, the Fed will continue its bond purchases and take other steps.

— Likely keep its benchmark short-term rate at a record low near zero through at least mid-2015. That's six months longer than the Fed had previously planned.

— Probably hold interest rates low even well after the economic recovery has strengthened.

The mortgage bond purchases are unlikely to boost home sales much, even if they manage to lower mortgage rates further. Home sales remain depressed in part because would-be buyers can't qualify for loans unless they have stellar credit or can produce hefty down payments. David Jones, chief economist at DMJ Advisors, said the Fed is reaching a point of diminishing returns after nearly four years of aggressive efforts to help the economy. Its latest actions might trim a mere 0.1 percentage point from the unemployment rate over the next year and boost growth by a modest 0.2 percentage point, Jones said.

Still, Bernanke maintained

that the Fed can help further. He's argued that the Fed's first two rounds of bond purchases, in which it bought more than \$2 trillion in bonds, saved 2 million jobs and accelerated growth.

By comparison, President Barack Obama's \$862 billion stimulus program created nearly 2.7 million jobs, according a study by former Fed Vice Chairman Alan Blinder and Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics. □



Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke speaks during a news conference in Washington, Thursday, Sept. 13, 2012, following the Federal Open Market Committee meeting to present the FOMC's current economic projections and to provide additional context for the FOMC's policy decision.

Associated Press

Egan-Jones cuts U.S. debt rating to AA- from AA

NEW YORK (AP) — Egan-Jones, an independent credit research firm, downgraded its rating on U.S. government debt to AA- from AA on Friday, citing the Federal Reserve's new plans to try to stimulate the economy.

The credit rating agency said the central bank's plan, announced Thursday, to buy mortgage bonds will likely hurt the economy more than help it.

Egan-Jones is a much smaller but well-known competitor to the big three rating agencies: Moody's Investors Service, Fitch Ratings and Standard & Poor's. Egan-Jones said the Fed's plan will weaken the value of the dollar and push up prices for oil and other commodities.

That would leave less for consumers to spend on other things.

At the same time, the agency warned that the federal government's borrowing costs are likely to



slowly rise as the global economy recovers.

On Thursday, the Fed said it would buy \$40 billion of mortgage bonds a month to help the economic recovery.

In April, Egan-Jones lowered its rating on the U.S. to AA from AA+. It stripped the U.S. of a top AAA rating in July 2011.

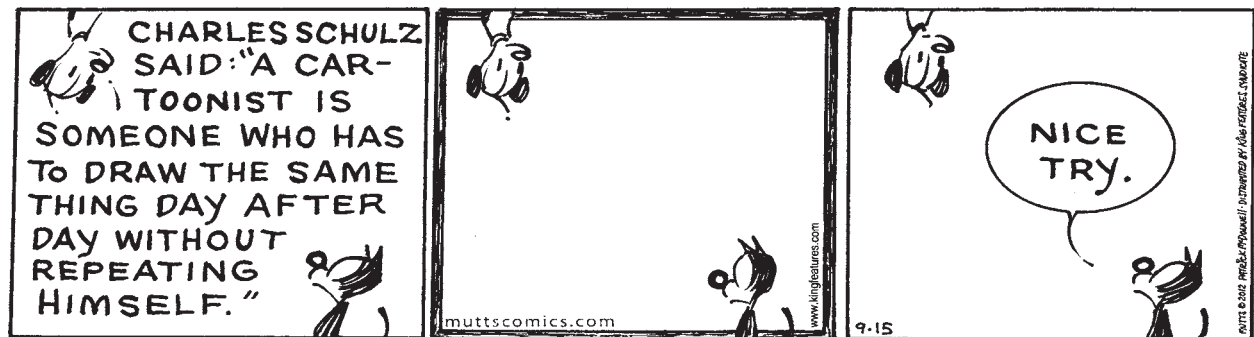
Sean Egan, the company's founder, has long railed against the power of the three major rating agen-

cies. Egan-Jones Rating Co. is one of 10 firms the Securities and Exchange Commission recognizes as a rating organization.

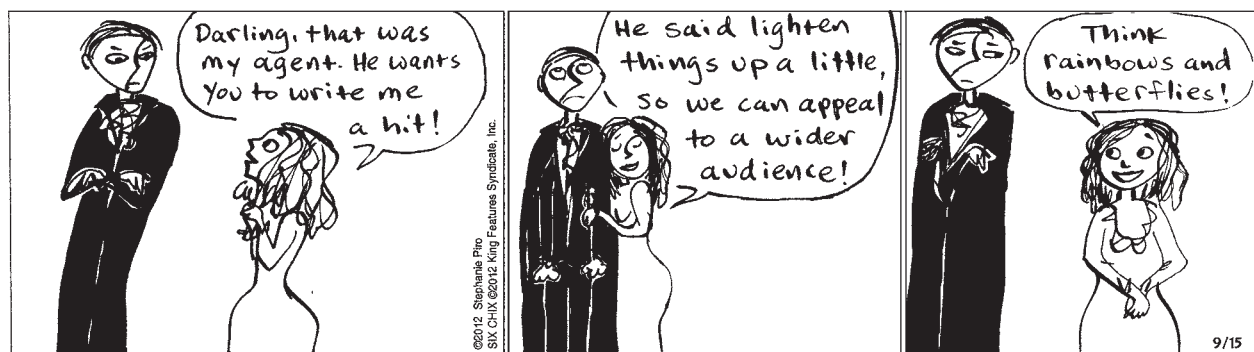
Earlier this week, Moody's said it would likely lower its "Aaa" rating on U.S. government debt if budget negotiations fail.

Standard & Poor's stripped the government of its "AAA" rating on its bonds in August 2011. Fitch Ratings issued a warning of a potential downgrade. □

Mutts



6 Chix



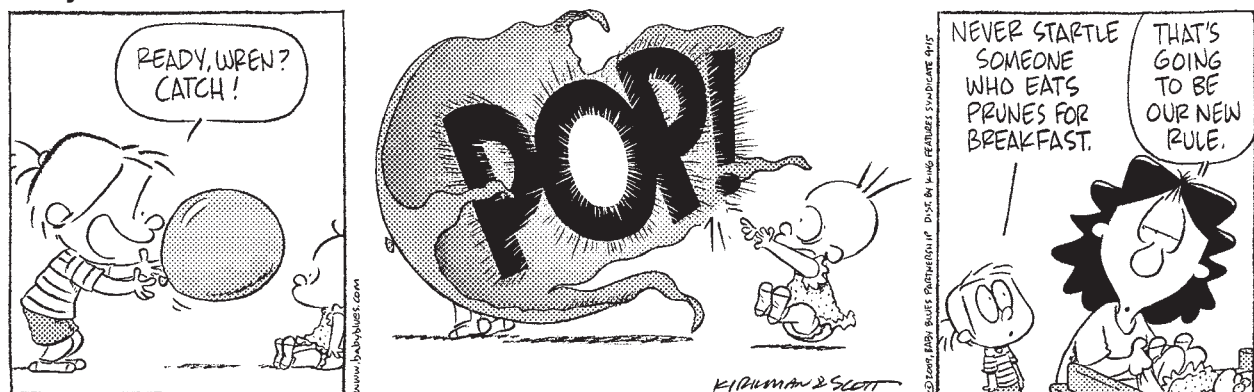
Blondie



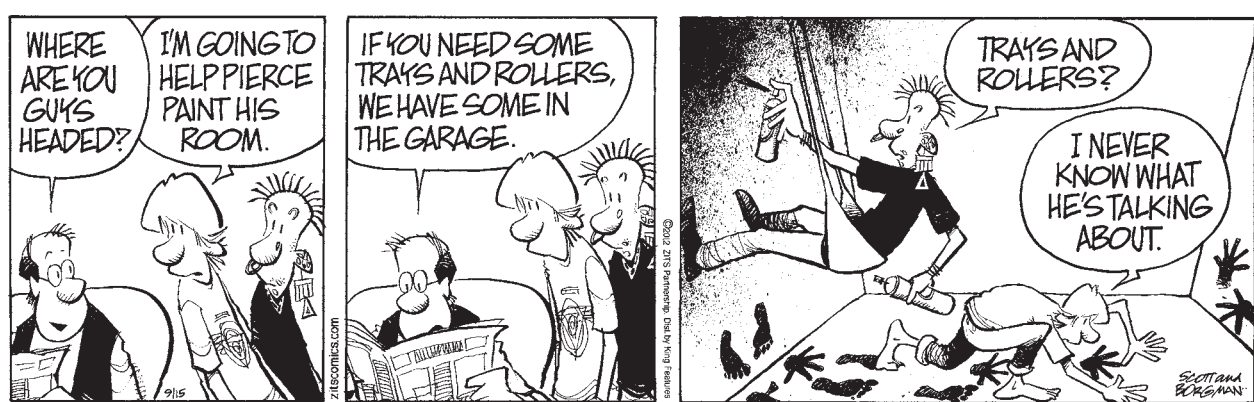
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	2			6				9
3	8			2	4			
		4		1				
	9						3	
5		2				1		6
	6						5	
				4		2		
			9		1		7	4
7				5			6	

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

9/15

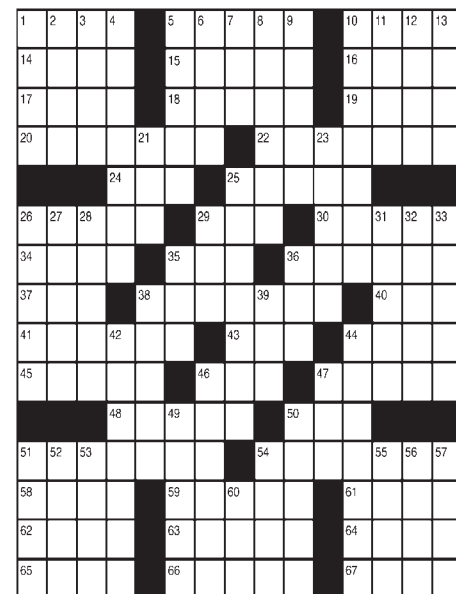
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

9	6	5	4	7	3	1	2	8
7	8	1	9	2	6	5	3	4
2	3	4	1	5	8	7	6	9
5	4	2	3	1	7	9	8	6
3	9	6	8	4	5	2	1	7
8	1	7	2	6	9	3	4	5
1	2	9	7	8	4	6	5	3
6	7	8	5	3	2	4	9	1
4	5	3	6	9	1	8	7	2

ACROSS

- Children
- Graduate exams, often
- Clutter
- Opera solo
- Walk leisurely
- Perched upon
- Lounge around
- Actor Buddy
- Sightseeing trip
- Expand
- Feminine
- Sheep's cry
- Lost color
- Dandruff site
- Doris or Dennis
- Piers
- Animal pen
- Cut the grass
- Singer Carey
- March's follower; abbr.
- Kellogg's ___ K; cold cereal
- Use a towel
- ___ of etiquette; faux pas
- New Year's ___; December 31
- Lunch or dinner
- Military attack
- Pig's home
- Shindig
- Gold bar
- Late Bernie
- Underground tank
- Dangerous fish
- Novelist Ferber
- Moses' brother
- Lima or fava
- Tidy
- Tail stealthily
- Landlord's collection
- Sticky strip
- Book leaves
- On ___; jittery



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/15/12

Friday's Puzzle Solved

DAFFY	SNAG	DEFT
EXILE	TERN	IDLE
PLAYS	EXCURSION	
PET	MEAT	ACTED
	PALM	HEMS
ALLENS	PUPA	SKI
BIAS	TIMID	PER
UNCOMMUNICATIVE		
SEE	OILED	AKIN
EDS	SKID	SERENE
	DEEP	SEEP
STRAY	SEAR	PIE
LOUISIANA	IRONY	
AGES	ATOM	EYDIE
BODY	NEWS	RESTS

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9/15/12

DOWN

- Hardy cabbage
- Steel, mostly
- Pickle variety
- Marketable
- Greek letter
- Terrycloth wraparound
- Pack animal
- Wiggle room
- Bishops' conference
- Bullfighter
- Prestigious boys' school
- Aretha's music
- Lively
- Knock
- Military award, often
- Actress Farrah
- Crusty wound coverings
- Isle near Naples
- Concur
- Female deer
- Apple drink
- Unit of fineness for gold
- In a bashful way
- Speedometer letters
- West of films
- Panorama
- Climbing plant
- Stir up
- Gruesome
- Hyundai model
- ___ for the course; normal
- Clutch
- Soft-pelted weasel cousins
- Penny
- New thought
- Metal fastener
- Warsaw native
- Have to have
- ___ up; end a phone call
- Opening bet in poker
- Dustcloth

Guatemala eruption turns to tourist draw

ALBERTO ARCE
ROMINA RUIZ-GOIRIENA
Associated Press
ANTIGUA, Guatemala (AP)

— A terrifying eruption of one of the world's most active volcanoes tapered off Friday into a draw for delighted tourists, who snapped photos from a neighboring colonial city and made plans to take night hikes to see glowing rivers of lava.

Villagers were returning to their homes on the flanks of the Volcano of Fire as it wound down its largest eruption in nearly four decades, spewing smaller amounts of ash and lava. Guatemalan authorities reduced the alert level from the highest, red, to orange around the Volcan del Fuego, or Volcano of Fire, and said Thursday's ferocious lava flow was now two smaller, 3,000-foot streams.

Tourists walking the cobblestone streets of the colonial city of Antigua, about six miles from the volcano, said they were making plans to take guided trips to the mountain to see the lava, and guide companies said they were getting dozens of calls for tours. Celina Huang, a 25-year-old Spanish student, was taking photos of the volcano, which looms over the Baroque churches and brightly colored arches of Antigua.

"This fire and red light is something I've never seen before," she said. "In my country, Taiwan, there are volcanoes but they're dormant. This is the first time I've seen an eruption."

Nilton Dasilva, a church group leader from Northfield, Illinois, said he decided to take a detour during a group trip to a nearby coffee plantation and try to get as close as safely possible to the volcano.

"Now that we know it erupted, we're going to try to stop on the way and maybe take some pictures," Dasilva said.

Emergency workers reported that many villagers living around the slopes of the volcano had begun



Volcan de Fuego or Volcano of Fire blows outs a thick cloud of ash as seen from Antigua Guatemala, Friday, Sept. 14, 2012. The volcano spewed rivers of bright orange lava down its flanks on Thursday. Authorities ordered more than 33,000 people from nearby communities evacuated.

Associated Press

returning home. The Red Cross of Guatemala was winding down operations, coordinator Sergio de Leon said.

Guatemalan authorities ordered the evacuation of more than 33,000 of the 62,000 people living immediately around the volcano, many in isolated indigenous villages. De Leon said many people had moved to the homes of friends or relatives a little farther away from the volcano. Local media reported about 5,000 had evacuated, while emergency officials said the figure may have been much lower.

Gustavo Chicna, a volcanologist with the national weather, earthquake and volcanology institute, said the Volcano of Fire, Guatemala's most active, appeared to be in the final stages of its biggest eruption since 1974, when the

event was five times more powerful than this week's.

"There have been dozens of calls from people interested in going to the Volcano of Fire," said Irma Celada, a 31-year-old tour operator in Antigua. "People want to go at night because they want to see the lava. We're getting ready to leave when the sun goes down."

She said the tours wouldn't go all the way to the crater of the volcano, as usual, before tour operators got authorization from the authorities.

Villagers and farmers living at the foot of the volcano were awoken Thursday by a massive roar during a series of eruptions that darkened the skies and covered surrounding sugar cane fields with ash.

"It thundered and then it got dark as the ash began falling," said Miriam

Curumaco, a 28-year-old homemaker from the village of Morelia who had evacuated along with 16 family members to a makeshift shelter at a nearby elementary school. "It sounded like a pressure cooker that wouldn't stop."

The Volcano of Fire spewed rivers of bright orange lava down its flanks, prompting authorities to order evacuations in 17 nearby communities.

Hundreds of cars, trucks and buses, blanketed with charcoal gray ash, drove away from the volcano, which sits about six miles southwest of Antigua, toward Guatemala City. Thick clouds of ash reduced visibility to less than 10 feet in some areas. The elderly, women and children were evacuated in old school buses and ambulances.

Authorities set up a shelter at an elementary school in Santa Lucia, the town closest to the volcano, and by Thursday night some 750 people had arrived. Most were women and children carrying blankets. □

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Plans for giant Antarctic marine sanctuary falter

NICK PERRY

Associated Press

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — Antarctica's

Ross Sea is often described as the most isolated and pristine ocean on Earth, a place where seals and penguins still rule the waves and humans are about as far away as they could be. But even there it has proven difficult, and maybe impossible, for nations to agree on how strongly to protect the environment.

The United States and New Zealand have spent two years trying to agree on an Alaska-sized marine sanctuary where fishing would be banned and scientists could study climate change. U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton took a strong interest in the outcome, regularly prodding diplomats, and New Zealand recently sent a delegation to Washington to reach a tentative deal.

That compromise, over a region that accounts for less than 2 percent of New Zealand's fishing industry,



In this Dec. 1, 2006 photo released by Fish Eye Films, a small group of emperor penguins stand on the edge of an ice drift in the Ross Sea in the Antarctic.

Associated Press

flopped this month when senior New Zealand politicians rejected it behind closed doors.

The U.S. and New Zealand have now sent competing plans to the 25 countries that meet annually each October to decide the fate of Antarctica's waters. Their inability to agree greatly increases the chances that nothing will get done. Evan Bloom, director of the U.S. State Department's Office of Ocean and Polar Affairs, said the U.S. put a great deal of effort into its reserve proposal because it believes the Ross Sea is the best place on Earth for scientists to carry out studies away from the influence of mankind. "If you can't do it in Antarctica, where can you do it?" said Bloom.

Both countries advocated for marine sanctuaries. The differences between the two plans seem small on a map, but they center on the areas of the sea where marine life is most abundant.

The U.S. does not have fishing interests in the Ross Sea, though fish caught there

often end up in high-end American restaurants, marketed as Chilean sea bass.

The species is actually an ugly creature called the Antarctic toothfish. Fishermen from New Zealand, South Korea, Russia and other nations have been catching them in the Ross Sea since the 1990s. They use lines that can stretch more than a mile to catch about 100,000 of them a year. The U.S. aimed to reach an agreement with a nation that fishes the Ross Sea in hopes it would lead to a broader deal to protect marine habitats there. New Zealand wanted to minimize disruption to its fisheries, but also wanted to burnish its conservation credentials. The country not only prides itself as an environmental leader, but it also makes money by marketing its clean, green image to trading partners and tourists. And it has criticized other nations' environmental records at sea, particularly nations that allow whaling.

Clinton urged diplomats to craft a deal. When she vis-

ited the Cook Islands last month, she described the Ross Sea as "one of the last great marine wilderness areas on the planet" and said the U.S. was working with other countries, "in particular New Zealand," to establish protected areas. Murray McCully, New Zealand's foreign affairs minister, echoed her comments. Late last month, senior New Zealand diplomat Gerard van Bohemen led a team to Washington that spent four days grinding out the details of a compromise. After he brought the proposal back to New Zealand's ruling National Party, its senior Cabinet of lawmakers met in a closed session and rejected it.

Exactly why, they're not saying. Van Bohemen and Cabinet minister Steven Joyce declined to give interviews. McCully also declined to discuss what happened, although he said in an email that New Zealand will keep working closely with the Americans.

The Ross Sea fishery is small on a global scale, worth about \$60 million per year.

The New Zealand Seafood Industry Council says New Zealand's Ross Sea catch accounts for just \$16 million of a national industry worth over \$1 billion.

But council spokesman Don Carson said New Zealand relies on dozens of species being fished in dozens of places. "None of them are huge, but they are very diverse, and we are keen not to lose any of them," he said. Carson said the Ross Sea is being fished conservatively and sustainably, so further restrictions are unnecessary. "We fish in a very limited area for a very limited season," he said. "We don't want to be buffeted by the winds of popular sentiment when that sentiment is based on a misapprehension of what's going on."

Antarctic fishing is regulated by the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, the 25-nation group scheduled to meet next month. Its executive secretary, Andrew Wright, said fishing in the Ross Sea is carefully regulated with quota limits set each year, and that available science points to the fishery being sustainable. Peter Young, a New Zealander who recently directed an environmental advocacy documentary on the sea titled "The Last Ocean," said an international agreement that protects Antarctic land from exploitation should be extended to its seas.

"Almost every other ocean on earth has been impacted and affected by humanity," he said. "We're down to the last few places, and we've got to protect it and have something to hand on to future generations."



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This Aug. 21, 2012 photo shows actor Paul Rudd posing at the Grace Hotel in New York. He is hosting a bowling benefit next month in New York for the first time to support Our Time, a nonprofit that helps children who stutter.

Associated Press

Paul Rudd to host all-star bowling benefit

NEW YORK (AP) — Paul Rudd wants to take you bowling — and he's bringing along some of his A-list friends.

The actor is hosting a bowling benefit next month in New York to support Our Time, which helps children who stutter. The event will be held Oct. 22 at Lucky Strike lanes.

The guest list includes Gina Gershon, Mariska Hargitay, Rashida Jones, Julianna Margulies, Jesse L. Martin, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Denis O'Hare, Fisher Stevens, Victor Garber, Rosie Perez, Anthony Rapp, Rachel Dratch, Lewis Black, John Oliver, Mo'Nique, Steve Kazee, and Bobby Cannavale.



This Sept. 4, 2012 file photo released by Starpix shows actor Geoffrey Rush at the New York premiere of Sycamore Entertainment Group's "The Eye of the Storm," hosted by Qantas Airlines, Hazelton Asset Management LLC and The Australian Consulate General NY at the Museum of Modern Art.

Associated Press

Rush: Brown paper packages not his favorite things

LAURI NEFF

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Geoffrey Rush — who played speech therapist Lionel Logue in the Oscar-winning film "The King's Speech" — has repeatedly said he first found the script left in brown paper wrapping on his Australia home's doorstep. Now, he says he wishes he had kept that story to himself. Rush says other aspiring filmmakers have followed suit, leaving all manner of projects at his front door in Melbourne since the movie first came out in 2010. As he puts it: "The brown paper package phenomenon continues." In a recent interview promoting his film "Eye of the Storm," the actor asked that prospective Oscar-winners route submissions through his agent. He assured them that if their script has a "keen and interesting and enthusiastic" cover letter, it will be read.

Lady Gaga gets live tattoo at perfume launch



Singer Lady Gaga arrives at Macy's Herald Square by horse-drawn carriage to launch her Lady GagaFame fragrance on Friday, Sept. 14, 2012 in New York.

Associated Press

MESFIN FEKADU

AP Music Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Lady Gaga launched her debut perfume while being inside a giant-sized perfume bottle.

The avant garde pop star was in a large bottle — a

replica of her "Fame" fragrance — appearing in the transparent glass where attendees took photos and watched the singer get a tattoo on her neck.

The entertainer entered the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum on New York's Upper East Side on Thursday night on top of a convertible. She posed for pictures and interacted with some fans.

Inside, she laid in the bottle in a sparkly top, black skirt and red wig. Then she took off some clothing and a wig — now appearing in lingerie, including a thong — and began receiving a tattoo of the back of her neck (she shaved the bottom half of the back of her head this week).

Gaga applied makeup and played on an iPad inside the bottle, where she was joined by four others. Edith Piaf played in background, as did David Bow-

ie's "Fame" and various songs that featured Kanye West.

She got her tattoo — and danced in her seat — as West's latest hit "Mercy" blasted in the background. The masquerade black tie event featured a few hundred people, mostly dressed with eye masks and headgear. Celebrity attendees included Yoko Ono, Marc Jacobs, Paris Hilton, Michael Strahan, Jason Wu and Lindsay Lohan, who arrived late for the event.

Gaga also debuted a short film called "Lady Gaga Film" for the fragrance in collaboration with director Steven Klein.

The Grammy-winning singer released her multiplatinum debut, "The Fame," in 2008. That was followed by the platinum-selling albums "The Fame Monster" and last year's "Born This Way."

Colbert to NY Fordham students: 'I love my church'

By RACHEL ZOLL

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — In a rare public moment out of character, actor Stephen Colbert told students at the Jesuit Fordham University on Friday that he loves the Roman Catholic Church no matter its human flaws.

The host of "The Colbert Report" talked about his faith in a discussion on humor and spirituality with New York Cardinal Timothy Dolan and the Rev. James Martin, author of "Between Heaven and Mirth" and the official chaplain of Colbert's show.

Colbert, who has taught Sunday school classes to school-age children, said people in comedy often don't understand how he could remain Catholic. But he said he views the church as teaching joy, which he called the "infallible sign of the presence of God."

"I love my church — warts and all," he said, before an audience of about 3,000 cheering students, who posted his quotes on Twitter using the organizers' (hash) dolancolbert hashtag. Colbert said people in comedy often make jokes at the expense of religion, but he makes jokes about what he called people's misuse of religion in politics and other arenas. Still, he said, "If Jesus doesn't have a sense of humor, I am in huge trouble."

Colbert took the opportunity to needle Dolan about the new English-language translation of the Roman Missal, the text of prayers and instructions for celebrating Mass. The translation was introduced last fall in U.S. parishes to initial grumbling over what critics called stilted language. A focus of the complaints was the translation of the Nicene



- In this May 21, 2012 file photo, TV personality and author Stephen Colbert attends the 71st Annual Peabody Awards in New York.

Associated Press

Creed, replacing the phrase "one in Being with the Father" to "consubstantial with the Father."

"Consubstantial?" Colbert said, as Dolan shook his head and laughed. "It's the Creed. It's not the SAT prep."

Topless tempest: Kate photos spark palace fury



Prince William and his wife Kate, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge take their shoes off before entering a mosque in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Friday, Sept. 14, 2012.

By GREGORY KATZ

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Paparazzi, French media and a British royal: The publication of topless photos of Prince William's wife Kate has reunited the same players whose clash ended with the untimely death of his mother, Princess Diana, in a Parisian car crash.

William, who has long harbored a grudge against the paparazzi who chased Diana in the days and hours

leading up to her 1997 death, was clearly infuriated. The royal couple hit back with an immediate lawsuit against the popular French gossip magazine Closer, which is owned by former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's Mondadori publishing empire.

The blurry photos, called a "grotesque" abuse of privacy by royal officials, show Kate — the Duchess of Cambridge — wearing only a skimpy bikini bottom.

They are the first to show Britain's likely future queen with her bosom exposed.

St. James's Palace officials sharply criticized the magazine moments after the photos hit French newsstands, comparing the intrusion on the young couple's privacy to the tragic paparazzi pursuit of Diana, which many believe was a contributing factor in her early death on Aug. 31, 1997.

The parallels between the past and the present were eerie. Diana was hounded by paparazzi who took telephoto shots of her vacationing on a yacht with her boyfriend Dodi and tailed them relentlessly in Paris.

Earlier this month, a photographer with a similar long lens captured Kate and William relaxing in the sun at a private estate in Provence, a vacation spot near the French Riviera.

Instead of challenging the authenticity of the blurry photos, palace officials said they appear genuine — and should never have been taken, much less published.

"The incident is reminiscent

of the worst excesses of the press and paparazzi during the life of Diana, Princess of Wales, and all the more upsetting to the Duke and Duchess for being so," a St. James's Palace official in London said in a statement.

The British media — chastened by a deep scandal over phone hacking and other misdeeds — all shied away from using the photos. That restraint came even though Rupert Murdoch's The Sun tabloid is famed for its daily "Page 3" topless shots.

The photos, which were not available on English newsstands, appeared to unite many Britons behind their royal family.

"I think it's quite outrageous," said Alice Mason, 24, from London. "They were on holidays in a private place and some creepy journalist took pictures. It's not in the public interest to see this."

"They are always going to be in the public eye, but there is a line, and they (the media) crossed that line."

She said the royal couple has "every right to be outraged, especially with what happened to Diana."

Much of the anger seemed to stem from the fact that the royal couple was at a private residence when they were photographed.

Prime Minister David Cameron chimed in to support the royal couple's right to privacy. William, second in line to the British throne after his father Prince Charles, married Kate in 2011 and both have recently expressed an interest in having children.

Royal officials have stressed that William and Kate should not be photographed when they are not in public. They have complained before about candid pictures of the couple walking their cocker spaniel puppy Lupo on a wintry day in north Wales, where William is based as a military search-and-rescue pilot. The palace has also complained about an Australian magazine's use of photos of the couple on

their honeymoon.

Those complaints were expressed quietly compared to Friday's stern reproach of the French media.

Laurence Pieau, the editor of Closer, defended the decision to use the topless photos, telling The Associated Press the pictures were tasteful.

"For me, those pictures were not shocking. Just a beautiful couple, an in-love couple, in the south of France. Kate is the girl next door," she said.

She also dismissed accusations that the pictures invaded the couple's privacy.

"This terrace looked out on a public road and they were visible from the road. So they were not particularly trying to hide themselves," she said.

Pieau added that she found the pictures of Kate far tamer than those of a naked Prince Harry in Las Vegas hotel suite that were published in Britain's The Sun tabloid last month.

A French lawyer who is an expert in media law said the royal couple had clear grounds for an invasion of privacy case against the magazine.

"French magistrates take into account the victim's behavior, when the person is flaunting themselves on camera."

Kate Middleton will get damages because she's not behaving in this way," said the lawyer, Anne Pigeon-Bormans.

If the couple's lawsuit reaches court and if the magazine is found guilty, it could face a fine of up to €45,000 (about \$60,000). Potential criminal sanctions include up to a year in prison, according to French law. Last week, French first lady Valerie Trierweiler won a judgment of €2,000 (\$2,580) after the publication of photos of her in a bikini.

The British media, wary about an ongoing U.K. inquiry into suspected criminal wrongdoing at a number of papers, has generally respected the palace guidelines. □

McFerrin, Simon sing improv at NY Lincoln Center



In this July 17, 2011 photo, singer and songwriter Paul Simon performs during a concert at the Arena Civica in Milan, Italy.

CHARLES J. GANS

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Are you ready for Simon and McFerrin? Paul Simon probably never had a vocal partner quite like Bobby McFerrin, who coaxed him onstage for an impromptu performance of a Simon and Garfunkel hit — the

highlight of opening night of Jazz at Lincoln Center's 25th anniversary season.

In his unique style, McFerrin had just started singing "Scarborough Fair" at Thursday night's concert — singing the lyrics while using his voice as a musical accompaniment — when he suddenly stopped to say

that someone had spotted Simon in the audience.

"I don't know really how you feel about improv, but there's an extra microphone over there," he said to Simon. Simon initially demurred. But with the audience cheering, McFerrin said in a high-pitched falsetto: "I just think you can sing this one better than I can."

"How could you do that to me," Simon said good-naturedly as he joined McFerrin onstage at the Rose Theater for an unexpected guest turn. McFerrin quickly proved that he's no Art Garfunkel, whose tight vocal harmonies with Simon turned "Scarborough Fair" and other songs into '60s hits. □

Apres Rahm, le deluge



David Brooks
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Modern nations have two economies, which exist side by side. Economy I is the tradable sector. This includes companies that make goods like planes, steel and pharmaceuticals. These companies face intense global competition and are compelled to constantly innovate and streamline. They've spent the last few decades figuring out ways to make more products with fewer workers.

Economy II is made up of organizations that do not face such intense global competition. They often fall into government-dominated sectors like health care, education, prisons and homeland security. People in this economy believe in innovation, but they don't have the sword of Damocles hanging over them so they don't pursue unpleasant streamlining as rigorously. As a result, Economy II institutions tend to get bloated and inefficient as time goes by. For example, between 1960 and 2006, health care spending increased twice as fast as the GDP, but there were no comparable gains in health outcomes. A study by the Institute of Medicine estimates that 30 cents of every \$1 spent on health care is wasted—about \$750 billion a year.

Over the past 50 years, spending on K-12 education has also skyrocketed. In 1960, Americans spent roughly \$2,800 per student, in today's dollars. Now we spend roughly \$11,000 per student. This spending binge has not produced comparable gains in student outcomes. Education productivity is down, too.

If Economy I is great at generating output without generating employment, Economy II is great at generating employment without generating output.

The problem is that the bloated Economy II is becoming a burden that Economy I can no longer carry. Unless we reform Economy II and control its spending, the bloat will crush us. National productivity will slide. The economy will stagnate.

Republicans have a direct answer for this problem. Reform Economy II so it looks more like Economy I. Introduce vouchers and other consumer driven market mechanisms to health

care and education. Democrats reject that approach. Their counterargument is that Economy II can control costs using its own internal means. Strong mayors, governors and presidents can make these systems work.

The Democratic argument is nice in theory, but can it work in practice? Can Democrats confront their own special interests and deliver results?

The Chicago teachers' strike is a test of this proposition. The Chicago school system is a classic case of a bloated, inefficient Economy II organization.

The average Chicago teacher makes \$76,000 a year in a city where the average worker makes \$47,000 a year. Rising school costs have helped push the system deep into the red. Meanwhile, the outcomes are not good. Forty percent of students drop out and 8 percent of 11th-graders meet college readiness standards.

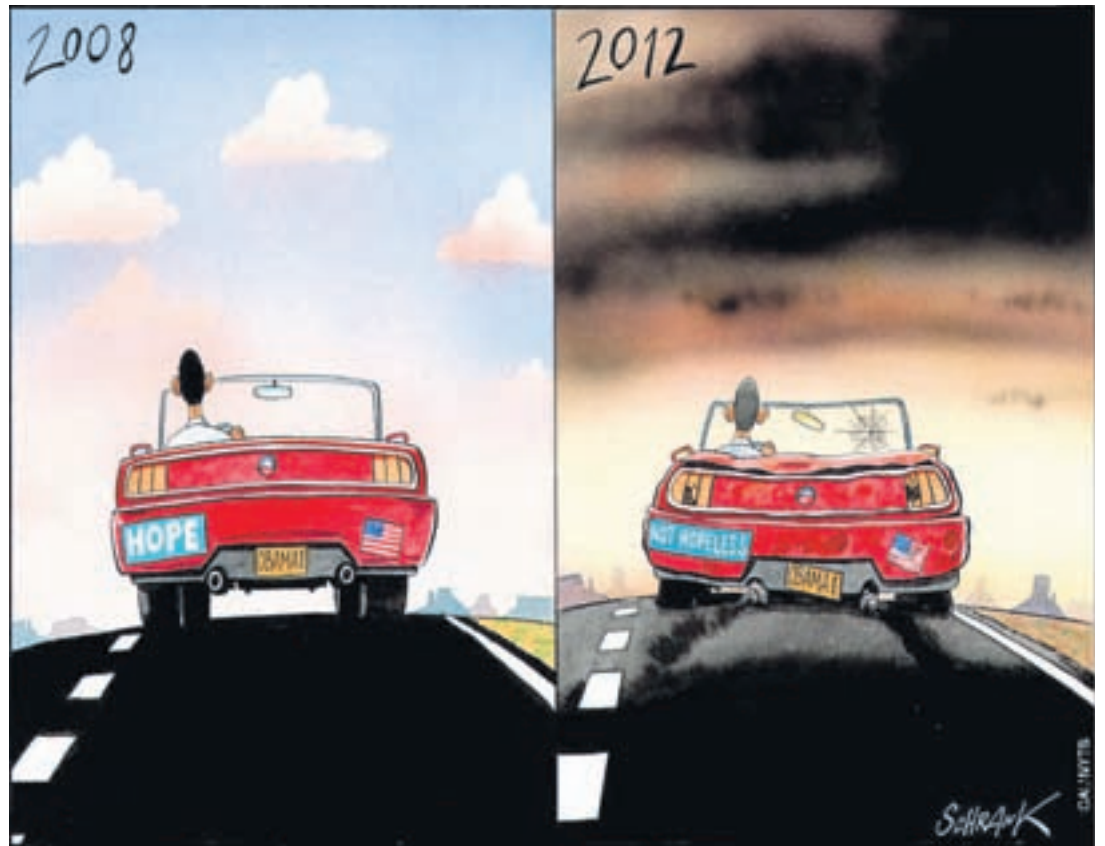
Mayor Rahm Emanuel campaigned on real education reform, and, in office, he's tried to push it through. The response? A strike.

By Thursday night, this strike seemed to be heading toward a resolution. Both sides are giving ground, but, as best as I can tell, Emanuel has successfully preserved the core of his reform agenda. There will be longer school days and a longer school year. A child who begins in the Chicago school system in kindergarten and goes all the way through high school will have an extra 2 1/2 years of learning time. That's huge. There will also be no caps on parental choice. As more charters and different types of public schools are created, parents will have an array of options for their children.

Though the final details are still uncertain, there will also be a serious teacher evaluation process. The various elements of those evaluations will change for each teacher year by year, but, as teachers progress in their careers, student performance will become more and more important. That's vital because various studies have shown that evaluations that rely in part on test scores really do identify the best teachers. Teachers who score well on these evaluations really do produce measurable improvements in their students' performance for years to come. Rigorous teacher evaluations will give reformers a profound measuring tool.

Finally, principals will apparently be given discretion to hire who they want, and they will be held accountable for their school's performance. This, too, is a big win for Chicago's children.

Emanuel's willingness to hang tough and accept a strike was itself a hopeful sign that some Democrats are hardy enough to take on interests aligned with their own party. Emanuel certainly didn't get everything he wanted. The unions won concessions, too. □



The iPhone Stimulus



Paul Krugman
© 2012 New York Times News Service

Are you, or is someone you know, a gadget freak? If so, you doubtless know that Wednesday was iPhone 5 day, the day Apple unveiled its latest way for people to avoid actually speaking to or even looking at whoever they're with.

So is the new phone as insanely great as Apple says? Hey, I'll leave stuff like that to David Pogue. What I'm interested in, instead, are suggestions that the unveiling of the iPhone 5 might provide a significant boost to the U.S. economy, adding measurably to economic growth over the next quarter or two. Do you find this plausible? If so, I have news for you: You are, whether you know it or not, a Keynesian – and you have implicitly accepted the case that the government should spend more, not less, in a depressed economy. Before I get there, let's talk about where the buzz is coming from. A recent research note from JPMorgan argued that the new iPhone might add between a quarter- and a half-percentage point to GDP growth in the last quarter of 2012. How so? First, the report argued that Apple was likely to sell a lot of phones in a short time. Second, it noted that although iPhones are manufactured overseas, most of the price you pay when you buy one is domestic value-added – retailing

and wholesaling, advertising and profits – all of which counts as part of GDP. Finally, it took some plausible guesses about the price of each phone and the number of phones sold, and used those guesses to make an estimate of the impact on GDP. It's all pretty straightforward. But the implications are wider than most people realize.

The crucial thing to understand here is that these likely short-run benefits from the new phone have almost nothing to do with how good it is – with how much it improves the quality of buyers' lives or their productivity. Such effects will kick in only over the longer run. Instead, the reason JPMorgan believes that the iPhone 5 will boost the economy right away is simply that it will induce people to spend more.

And to believe that more spending will provide an economic boost, you have to believe – as you should – that demand, not supply, is what's holding the economy back. We don't have high unemployment because Americans don't want to work, and we don't have high unemployment because workers lack the right skills. Instead, willing and able workers can't find jobs because employers can't sell enough to justify hiring them.

And the solution is to find some way to increase overall spending so that the nation can get back to work.

So where can more spending come from? Businesses are sitting on lots of cash but, for the most part, have seen little reason to do a lot of investment. Why expand your capacity when you don't have enough sales to make full use of the capacity you already have? And because businesses aren't spending a lot, incomes are low, so consumer demand is low, which perpetuates those low sales. Yet depressions do end, eventually, even without government

policies to get the economy out of this trap. Why? Long ago, John Maynard Keynes suggested that the answer was "use, decay, and obsolescence": Even in a depressed economy, at some point businesses will start replacing equipment, either because the stuff they have has worn out or because much better stuff has come along; and, once they start doing that, the economy perks up. Sure enough, that's what Apple is doing. It's bringing on the obsolescence. Good.

But why suffer through years of depressed output and high unemployment while waiting for enough obsolescence to accumulate? Why not have the government step in and spend more, say on education and infrastructure, to help the economy through its rough patch? Don't say that the government can't add to total spending or that government spending can't create jobs. If you believe that the iPhone 5 can give the economy a lift, you've already conceded both that the total amount of spending in the economy isn't a fixed number and that more spending is what we need. And there's no reason this spending has to be private.

Yet far from using public spending to support the economy in its time of trouble, our political system – driven by a combination of ideology, exaggerated deficit fears and Republican obstructionism – has moved to make the depression worse. Yes, unemployment benefits and food stamps are up, because so many more people are in need; but government employment has plunged, as has public investment. Now, despite all this, we will eventually recover. Over time there will be more equipment that needs replacing, more iPhone-like innovations that boost spending, and, in the long run, we will exit this economic trap. □

London swaps the running track for the catwalk

SYLVIA HUI

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — London turned its attention from the Olympics to the catwalk Friday as fashion designers, buyers and journalists flooded into the British capital for the spring 2013 previews.

Organizers hoped the London Fashion Week extravaganza, which features more than 60 runway shows, can build on the buzz generated by the Olympics.

"This summer has shown London in its best light, highlighting the city's creativity and unique DNA," said Caroline Rush, chief executive of the British Fashion Council. "September is set to be an extremely exciting season in what has been an amazing year for the U.K."

Theatrical hats, crazy heels and bright red lipsticks were out in full force at the first previews, which included shows by veteran designer Caroline Charles, Bora Aksu and Australian label sass and bide.

London Fashion Week is a more eclectic affair than its cousins in New York, Milan and Paris, featuring celebrity-studded shows by seasoned big names like Burberry and Vivienne Westwood as well as a crop of younger designers, including Christopher Kane, Jonathan Saunders, Mary Katrantzou and Roksanda Ilincic.

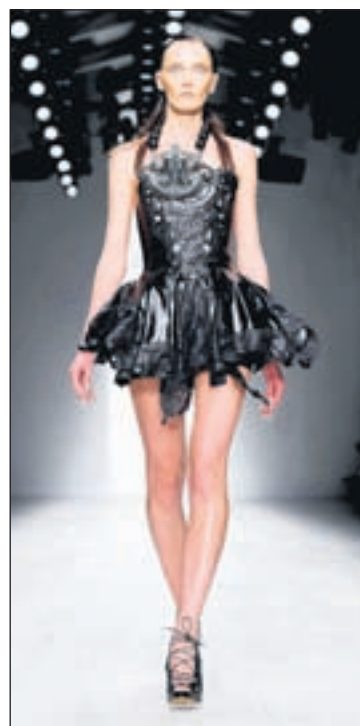
"London is a melting pot of design talent and 2012 feels like a very exciting time to be showing in the city," said Ruth Chapman, co-founder of Matches, a high-end British fashion retailer.

British fashion was a talking point even before the Olympics, when Stella McCartney designed the Olympic uniforms for Team GB (Great Britain) — a minimalist reimagining of the Union Jack. Other British designers including Alexander McQueen and Victoria Beckham received a tribute at the closing ceremony for the London Games. One of this season's most keenly watched catwalks



A model presents a design by Bora Aksu during his Spring/Summer 2013 show at London Fashion Week in London, Friday, Sept. 14, 2012.

Associated Press



A model wears a design from the KTZ Spring/Summer 2013 collection during London Fashion Week, Friday, Sept. 14, 2012.

Associated Press

will be a comeback show by Philip Treacy, the celebrity milliner. Treacy, who has made fanciful hats for Sarah Jessica Parker, Madonna, Lady Gaga and Britain's royals, is returning for the first time in almost a decade.

Also returning to London is Preen, a popular British label that has shown successfully in New York for the



A model presents a design by Felder Felder during their Spring/Summer 2013 show at London Fashion Week in London, Friday, Sept. 14, 2012.

Associated Press

past six years. The biannual fashion week features five days of women's wear catwalk shows, some menswear previews and dozens of exhibitions from emerging clothes and accessory designers. It is expected to generate some 100 million pounds (\$160 million) in orders.

CAROLINE CHARLES Awash with jungle prints, skimpy swimwear and vibrant colors, Caroline Charles' catwalk channeled a tropical heat that

defied London's cool autumn weather.

Charles, a veteran British designer who is celebrating 50 years in fashion, described her latest collection as a "riot of color and print." She opened with a series of plain black swimwear paired with silk shirts, shorts and wide-leg pants in tropical ocean, floral and birds of paradise prints. Colors were bold and summery, with lots of limes, mangos and magenta. Later on the collection switched to ladylike, so-

phisticated looks featuring tweed, delicate lace and full, structured skirts. There were warm-weather jackets galore, some classically fitted with rounded collars, and others in flowing, longer styles.

BORA AKSU

Turkish designer Bora Aksu looked back to an early 20th century queen for inspiration for his spring-summer 2013 show.

The result: A collection of ethereal, romantic gowns and dresses in dreamy shades of dove grey, cornflower, lavender and violet, adorned with childlike paper crowns.

Aksu, who is based in London, said Friday he was inspired by the grace and charisma of Queen Victoria's granddaughter, Marie, who became the queen of Romania in 1922.

Silhouettes were soft and free flowing, with the exception of some cropped evening jackets and brocade pencil skirts. Most pieces seemed to be composed of layers of the sheerest organza, adorned with abstracted, Art Deco-style botanical prints. □



A model wears a design from the Antoni and Alison Spring/Summer 2013 collection during London Fashion Week, Friday, Sept. 14, 2012.

Associated Press